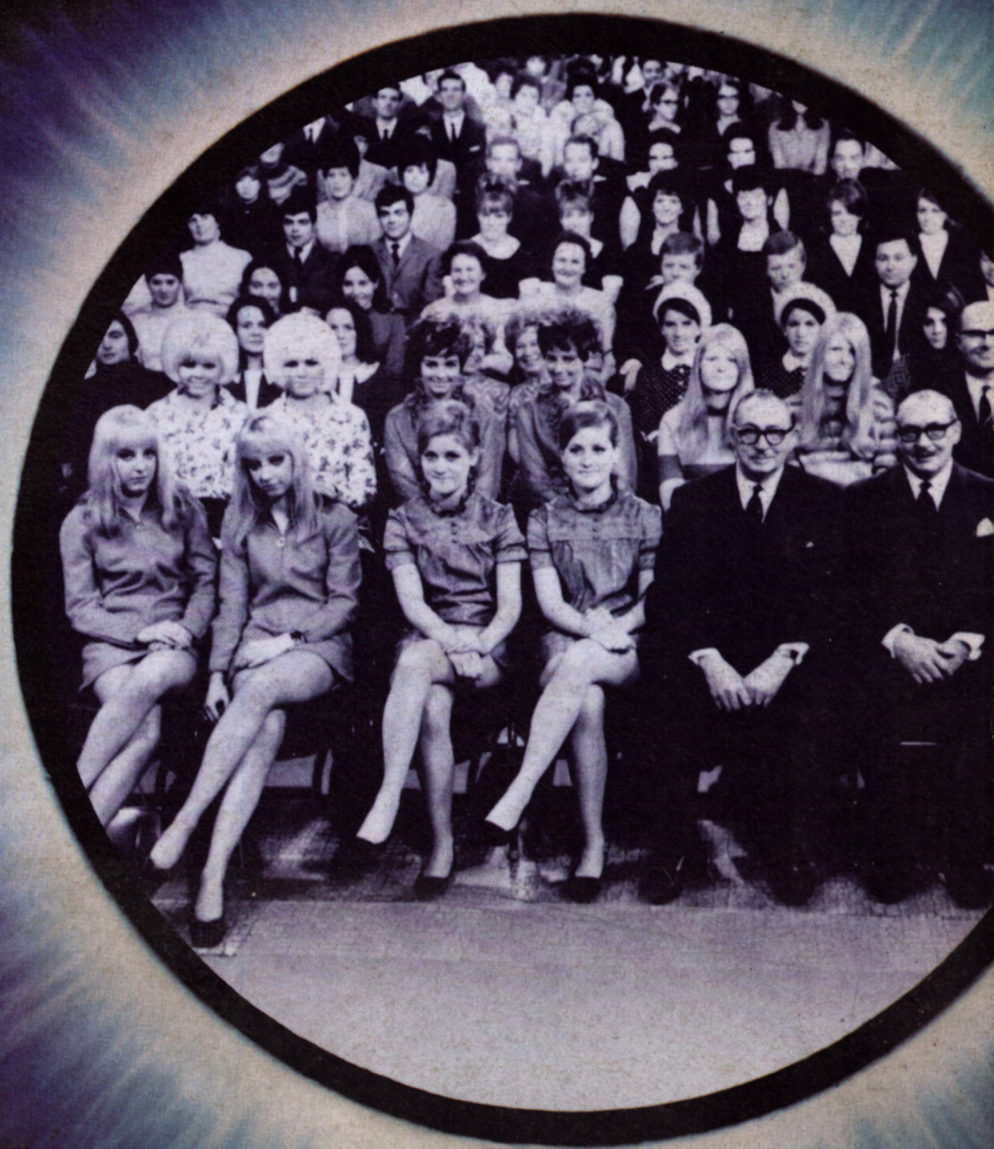


THE Unexplained

MYSTERIES OF MIND SPACE & TIME

The strange world of twins
Close-up on remote viewing
Creatures from the past
The Dufferin myth
UFOs over water

57



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MYSTERIES OF MIND SPACE & TIME

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Contents

Twins

THE STRANGE WORLD OF TWINS

Many twins separated at birth and reared apart still live remarkably similar lives. Is it more than coincidence?

Paul Sieveking

1121

Weird winged creatures

FLIGHT ACROSS TIME?

Can flying alligators, pterodactyls from prehistory and scaly monsters that bark really exist today?

Janet and Colin Bord

1126

Lord Dufferin

DUFFERIN: THE FATAL FLAW

The truth behind the legend that the first Marquis of Dufferin was saved from death by a supernatural power

Melvin Harris

1130

ESP on test

CLOSE-UP ON REMOTE VIEWING

Did Targ and Puthoff really succeed in proving remote viewing? We examine the evidence

David Harvey

1134

UFO Casebook

UFOS OVER WATER

Three intriguing UFO sightings – all well-separated in time, but all made on the Brazilian coast

Charles Bowen

1138

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In next week's issue

Are the strange encounters so often described by UFO witnesses real events – or are they products of the mind? We present the evidence in **Psychic UFOs**. The first part of a new series on **Evolution** explores the mysteries of heredity: can it be explained in terms of chemistry alone? In the view of several occultists Adolf Hitler was undoubtedly a powerful black magician. We examine the nature of his powers and how he used them in the concluding article on **Nazi occult**. **Lost civilisations** deals with Vilcapampa, the last stronghold of the Incas against the Spanish, and traces the attempts made by explorers to pinpoint its location. And lastly, **Twins** centres on the case of Greta and Freda Chaplin, whose uncanny similarities of behaviour seem to indicate that they are effectively one person.

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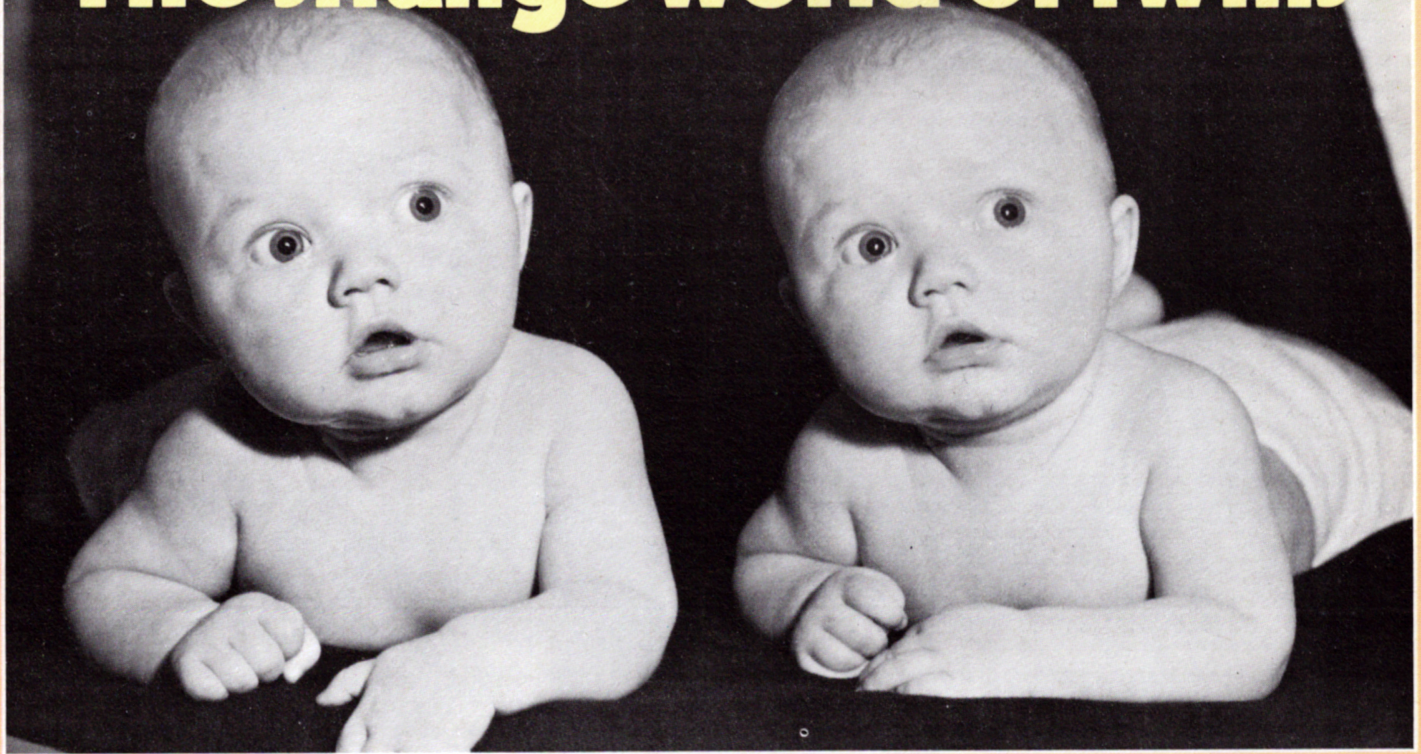
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The strange world of twins



Identical twins who are brought up together are expected not only to look alike, but also to exhibit similarities of behaviour. Yet, as PAUL SIEVEKING shows, even twins who are separated at birth and reared apart still lead lives with astonishing parallels

OF THE HUNDRED MILLION or so twins in the world, about a third are *monozygotic*. This means that the babies have come from a single fertilised egg, which then divides into two in the womb. Such twins have identical sets of genes, and are alike in every detail – even down to their fingerprints – meaning that any differences between them must be exclusively non-genetic.

Those that have been brought up together naturally influence each other, so it is almost impossible to pinpoint to what extent their genetic blueprints shape their destinies. But there are on record about 80 pairs of twins who have, for one reason or another, been brought up separately, completely unaware of each other. A study of these twins offers fascinating clues to the relative significance of nature and nurture, heredity and environment. By studying such cases, we can gain some insight into how much of one's character is determined biologically, how much by upbringing and education – and discover how much is simply beyond our present understanding.

For example, identical twins Jacqueline

and Sheila Lewis were adopted at birth by different families, and neither even knew the other existed. In June 1976, 26 years later, they were admitted to Southmead Hospital in Bristol, England, on the same day with the same rare hereditary skin disease. They were, by sheer chance, also put in the same treatment room. They soon discovered they were identical twins, even down to tiny details such as moles on their left knees, birthmarks on their necks and double-jointed little fingers. Both had suffered from pain in their left legs for several years and both had also had kidney trouble. Sheila's

Identical twins come in all shapes and sizes, from the appealing American babies (above) to the unwieldy brothers attending the greatest ever 'get together' of twins at Barvaux, Belgium, in 1966 (below). The 24-year-old heavyweights pose with year-old identical twins, whose individual identities have not yet had time to develop. However, it seems likely that their parents will follow the tradition of dressing them similarly – at least until the twins reach adolescence, the time when more assertive twins tend to stress their individuality

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husband had died on the same day that Jackie had divorced her husband.

1979 was a bumper year for the reunion of identical twins. It began with the 'Jim twins'. In August 1939 in Piqua, Ohio, USA, five-week-old identical twin boys were adopted by different families. One set of adoptive parents, Jess and Lucille Lewis, lived in Lima, while Ernest and Sarah Springer lived in Dayton 80 miles (130 kilometres) away. Both couples were told that the other twin had died; but Mrs Lewis learned the truth by accident six years later when she returned to probate court to complete adoption procedures. When she said that she had called the child James Edward, the court official said: 'You can't do that. They named the other little boy James.' The secret was out. But James he remained.

James Springer grew up believing his twin was dead, while James Lewis had no idea where his twin was, and hesitated for many years before tracing him painstakingly through the bureaucratic processes of the adoption courts. They were 39 when they finally met in February 1979. The level of synchronicity between them was quite astonishing. Both grew up with adopted brothers called Larry; at school both liked maths

Above: Jim Springer and Jim Lewis – the 'Jim twins' – with Lewis's adoptive mother. Separated at birth and reared by different families in Ohio, USA, they reunited at the age of 39 in 1979, and discovered an astonishing range of identical behaviour, such as calling their dogs Troy and having the same jobs in the same order. More incredible was the fact that both their adopted brothers had the same name. And both 'Jims' had married twice: the first time to a 'Linda' and the second to a 'Betty'. The odds against such coincidences happening through chance alone are overwhelming

and hated spelling; and as boys both owned dogs called Troy. Both had married women called Linda, divorced and then married 'Betty's'. Their first sons were named, respectively, James Alan and James Allan. Both families had taken their holidays for years at the same small beach in St Petersburg, Florida – driving there in Chevrolets. Both men had worked as attendants at filling stations, for the same hamburger chain, and part-time as deputy sheriffs. They had both taken up carpentry and technical drawing as hobbies. They were compulsive nail-biters; shared the same sleeping problems, smoking and drinking habits, and used the same slang words. Each is 6 feet (1.8 metres) tall and weighs 180 pounds (80 kilograms). After they met, their families noted similarities in speech patterns, mannerisms and posture.

At the age of 18, both the Jim twins started having tension headaches, which always began in the afternoon then turned into migraines. (They later used almost identical words to describe the pain.) Both stopped having them at the same age, then they started again for a time before stopping finally. It had never been thought that such a complicated migraine pattern could be 'programmed' by heredity. Moreover, both men have had confirmed or suspected heart attacks, had developed haemorrhoids, and both put on 10 pounds (4.5 kilograms) at the same time in their lives, and then lost it again.

In fact, synchronisation of ailments does seem to be a common feature between most twins, separated or not. Peter and Barry Ilott had their tonsils out together and both subsequently caught colds. 'It always follows the





same pattern,' said their mother. 'Barry is first to get the symptoms and within hours Peter has the same trouble.' Harold and Gerald Weitz also had their tonsils out together. In middle age, Harold had a heart attack, and Gerald followed suit a year later. Their doctor commented that their conditions were so similar that he could swear he was operating on the same person.

There have been several studies of separated twins, the largest being by the doyen of IQ testing, Sir Cyril Burt, who published the results of 45 years of research in 1966. He

Above: 300 pairs of identical twins take part in the *Frost Programme* on 17 January 1968 in London. At first glance each pair seems literally identical; they are – through habit or by request – wearing the same clothes and hairstyles, and seem to share the same physical mannerisms, such as the way they cross their legs or position their hands. However, a closer inspection reveals slight differences, enough, in most cases, to be able to tell the twins apart. But the big mystery about identical twins is not their appearance but the extraordinary degree of synchronicity in their lives

Left: Jeanette Hamilton and identical twin Irene Reid at their first meeting in 1981, 35 years after their adoption at birth. Uncannily they shared many experiences and even discovered they both had the same phobias – about water and heights



claimed to have studied 53 pairs of separated monozygotic twins. However, his reports were ambiguously phrased, giving no indication of the nature of the tests involved, and his IQ correlations were suspiciously uniform. His results were, it seems, 'cooked'. Burt's twin data was gathered between 1913 and 1939, and the bulk of his research papers was lost when a German bomb destroyed the basement records office of University College, London. His claim to have studied a further 32 cases between 1955 and 1964 is almost certainly untrue: much of his 1966 study appears to be a reconstruction of his pre-war work presented as post-war research. His assistants 'Miss Howard' and 'Miss Conway' simply never existed. In short, the father of British educational psychology was highly unscrupulous and his research on twins very suspect.

The other major studies of separated twins also suffer from grave defects, and lay the researchers involved open to the charge of 'hereditarian bias', that is, in their IQ studies they were prejudiced in favour of genetic rather than environmental influences. The 19 cases studied by Newman, Freeman and Holzinger in Chicago in 1937 were all apparently selected because they were very much like each other to begin with. Of the 37 allegedly 'separated' twins studied by Dr James Shields in London in 1962, many were actually looked after by different members of the same family, often living in the same town. The sample of N. Juel-Nielsen in Denmark in 1965 – 12 cases in all – was too small for scientifically valid conclusions to be drawn.

News of the Jim twins prompted psychologist Thomas Bouchard of the University of Minnesota, USA, to instigate a much more detailed study of separated twins than had previously been attempted. As a result of

publicity, more than 30 cases of identical twins, separated in the first few months of their lives and not reunited until adulthood, have come to light; and each pair has been intensively studied for a week at Minnesota. (In mid 1981 the research was still being evaluated.)

A sample of this size offers a golden opportunity that may not arise again. This is because the likelihood of twins being separated at birth is diminishing as the stigma attached to illegitimacy disappears and fewer babies are 'put up' for adoption.

A surprising Sunday

One day in August 1979 Jeanette Hamilton opened the *Sunday Post* at her home in Paisley, Scotland, and saw her mirror image. The face staring up at her belonged to Irene Reid, who lived 300 miles (480 kilometres) away in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, and was looking for her long-lost twin. Jeanette and Irene spent the next three hours on the telephone making up for lost time.

Their unmarried mother had put them up for adoption in 1944. They discovered that they were both terrified of heights, had at one time led scout packs and worked part-time for the same cosmetics firm. They get a pain in the same spot on the right leg in wet weather. Both have such an aversion to water that when they go to the beach they tend to sit with their backs to the sea. They are compulsive calculators: if they see a lorry they will count the wheels on it. They suffer from claustrophobia, and hated having to enter one of the small testing rooms at Minnesota. Both have an extremely high rate of blinking, much higher than anyone else in the survey, but exactly the same as each other.

Also in 1979 Mrs Bridget Harrison of



Sir Cyril Burt (1883–1971), a distinguished British psychologist whose development of IQ testing led him to investigate the IQs of identical twins. His work implied there was, in almost every case, a perfect correlation. Unfortunately most of his records were destroyed in the blitz. Later, evidence came to light that undermined the validity of Burt's findings and seemed to prove that he had deliberately 'cooked' his results. Despite this, twins may indeed have very similar IQs

Leicester and Mrs Dorothy Lowe of Burnley, Lancashire, discovered they were twins. They had been apart since their birth in Lancashire in 1943. They had both married within a year of each other. One had called her son Richard Andrew, and the other called hers Andrew Richard. Bridget's daughter is Catherine Louise, Dorothy's is Karen Louise (and even then she was only called Karen to please a relative – Dorothy had really wanted to call her Katherine). Both had studied piano to the same grade, then stopped playing altogether after taking examinations at the same level. Both had had meningitis. Both collect soft toys, have cats called Tiger and wore almost identical wedding dresses. They leave their bedroom doors ajar; they wear the same perfume. They both kept a diary for just one year – 1960 – and the diaries they bought were the same make and design. The entries they made matched, day for day. Their mannerisms are identical, especially when they laugh. When they are nervous they cover their mouths with the same hand, and when talking they both put a hand on the back of their neck or pick at their nails. When Bouchard picked them up at Minneapolis airport in December 1979 he was astonished to see that both were wearing seven rings on one wrist, and, on the other, a bracelet and a watch. The Minneapolis study showed striking similarities between them in all areas, including their IQs, although, interestingly, the twin who had been raised in the more modest household did slightly better.

Bouchard and his team deny an hereditary bias themselves, being more interested in environmental influences and individual differences, but admit that the scores on many tests were incredibly close.

On 27 July 1939 Helena Jacobsson, an unmarried Finnish student, gave birth to twin girls in Hammersmith Hospital, London. They were christened Dagmar (or Daphne) Margaret – who was the elder by just 12 minutes – and Gerda (Barbara). Both were adopted, Barbara growing up in London, and Daphne in Luton. They were 39 when they met in May 1979. It had taken Barbara five years' research to find her twin.

Barbara Herbert and her family live in southern England, while Daphne Goodship and her family live in the north. Both their adoptive mothers died when they were children. Both girls had fallen downstairs when they were 15, leaving them with weak ankles. Both met their future husbands at town hall dances when they were 16 and were married in their early twenties in big autumn weddings, complete with choir. Both miscarried their first babies, then each had two boys followed by a girl – though

Sharing the same fate



Daphne and Barbara with Professor Bouchard

Daphne had two more children later.

They like carving, though Barbara uses wood and Daphne soap. They have crooked little fingers and a habit of pushing up their noses, which they both call 'squidging'. They hate heights and are squeamish about blood. Both women giggle a lot. They enjoy novels by Alastair Maclean and Catherine Cookson, and both used to read the women's magazine *My Weekly* but stopped. Each has a minimal heart murmur and a slightly enlarged thyroid gland. Neither had ever voted – feeling too ill-informed about the political issues involved – except once when they were actually employed as polling clerks. At their reunion they were both wearing beige dresses, brown velvet jackets and identical white petticoats, and had tinted their greying hair almost the same shade of auburn. One difference was their weights: Daphne had been dieting and was 20 pounds (9 kilograms) lighter.

The only striking exception was of twins, one of whom was a fisherman in Florida, the other a CIA electronics expert. The fisherman was raised by an uneducated manual labourer, his twin by a highly educated man. Although both were great raconteurs, the difference in their IQs was considerable – about 20 points. It seems that the differences in background have to be very drastic before affecting the grown twins' IQs significantly.

Phobias were often shared – as we have seen in the case of Jeanette and Irene – which seems to disprove the conventional belief that these are the result of specific individual traumas. On the other hand, tests showed that most twins do not share the same allergies, so these seem unlikely to be genetic in origin. Smoking, too, seems to be an individual addiction. In several cases, one twin was a smoker and the other a non-smoker, but even so, the state of the lungs of the twins was very similar.

The astonishing similarity of names is one of the most unexplained of all the 'coincidences' involved, but the correspondence of children's names seems to be twice as mysterious because presumably the twin's husband or wife also had had a say in the matter. As for choosing wives with the same name (and in the case of the Jim twins not just once but twice) it almost seems as if the cosmic joker (see page 694) were responsible.

Then there is the odd phenomenon of *astro-twins* – people of the same sex born at the same time, *but not related* – who have led remarkably parallel lives. These cases offset some of the bizarre synchronicities of biological twins. For example: Goran Lundberg of Sweden was born on the same day as another Goran Lundberg. Both won scholarships to study in the USA in 1966. And both chose to attend Bethany College in Lingsborg, Kansas, where they met. Jacqueline Luscher and Elizabeth Boxxhard, born on the same day in the same town in



Above: identical twins Oscar Stohr and Jack Yufe, who were reunited in 1979. Theirs must be the most ironical of all separated-twin stories: Oscar had been reared as a fanatical Nazi – and Jack as a Jew

Below: English twins Bridget Harrison of Leicester and Dorothy Lowe from Burnley, Lancashire, who took part in Professor Bouchard's twin study. Aged 36 when they met for the first time, it almost seemed as if the same person had been living in two places at once, so strong were the similarities between them



Switzerland, married on the same day and also moved to Los Angeles simultaneously. Both had baby girls in the same hospital on the same day, attended by the same doctor.

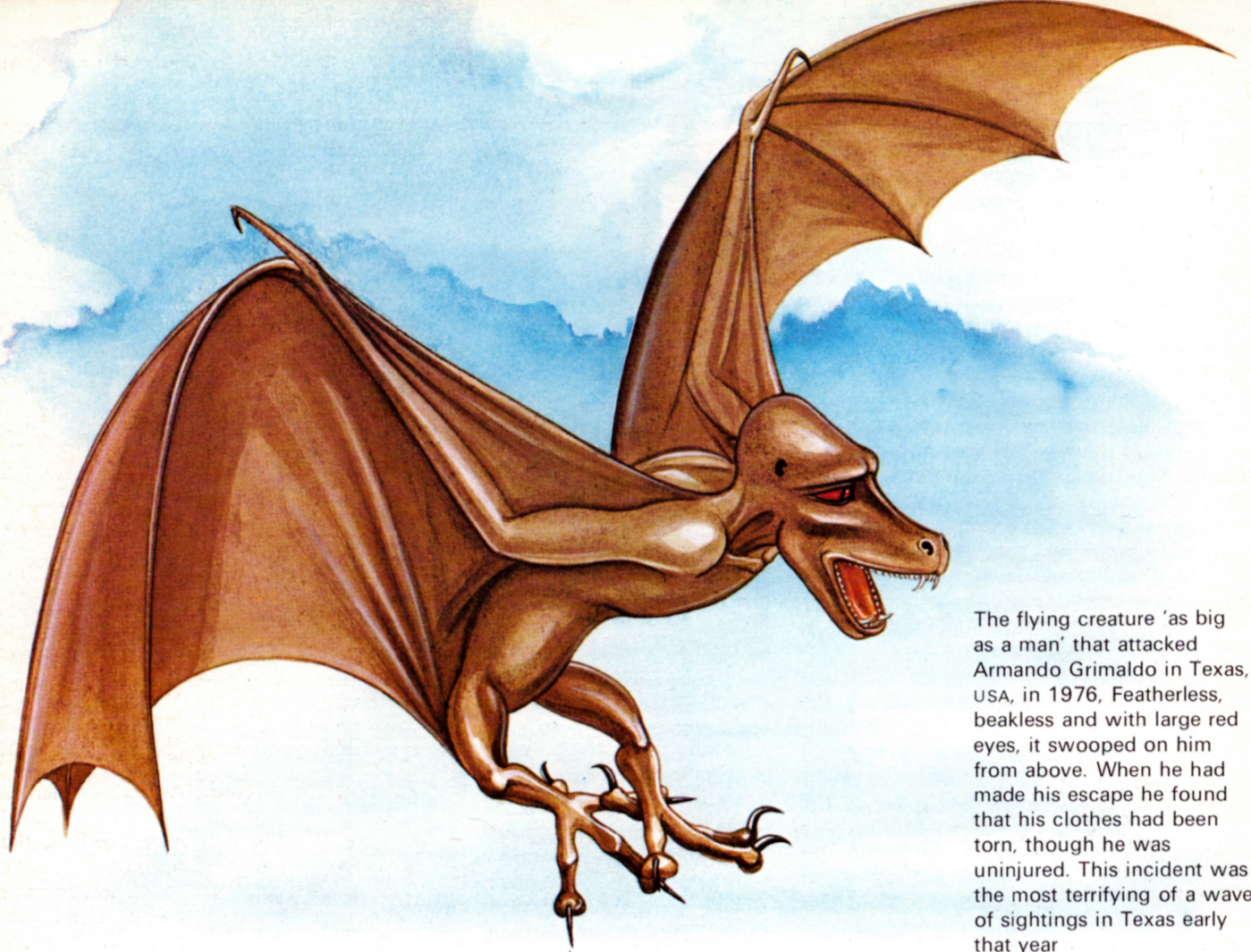
But the most striking case of highly-synchronised, separated twins must be that of Oscar Stohr and Jack Yufe. They were born in Trinidad in 1933 and separated shortly afterwards when their parents quarrelled. Oscar was taken to Germany by his mother, where he became an ardent Nazi. With profound irony, Jack was reared in Trinidad by his father, a Jewish merchant. He attended the synagogue and became a King's Scout.

Identical: Nazi and Jew

In 1979, Jack read about the Jim twins and wrote to Bouchard suggesting that the scientists arrange a meeting between Oscar and himself to study them. When they met at the airport, they were both wearing wire-rimmed, rectangular spectacles and blue shirts with epaulettes, and both had short clipped moustaches.

The study revealed they had identical habits: they both flush the lavatory before and after using it; store rubber bands on their wrists; and prefer to dine alone in restaurants because they like to read over meals. Before eating, they clear the tables of all extraneous items. They both dip buttered toast into their coffee; read magazines from back to front; and like to scare people in lifts by sneezing very loudly. They have the same gait and way of sitting, and they speak with the same rhythms, even though Oscar speaks only German and Jack only English. So Nazi and Jew were brothers. However much scientists talk of 'hereditary bias' and genetic versus environmental influences, one cannot help feeling that fate had a hand in this.

Mirror image twins and twins with a secret language. See page 1158



The flying creature 'as big as a man' that attacked Armando Grimaldo in Texas, USA, in 1976, Featherless, beakless and with large red eyes, it swooped on him from above. When he had made his escape he found that his clothes had been torn, though he was uninjured. This incident was the most terrifying of a wave of sightings in Texas early that year

Flight across time?

Terrified witnesses have told of winged creatures that strikingly resembled pterodactyls, supposedly extinct for over 60 million years. JANET and COLIN BORD describe these fantastic creatures of the air

AN AMAZING REPORT in a learned journal, *The Zoologist* for July 1868, describes what the writer had seen earlier the same year at Copiapó, in Chile:

Yesterday, at about five o'clock in the afternoon, when the daily labours in this mine were over, and all the workmen were together awaiting their supper, we saw coming through the air . . . a gigantic bird, which at first we took for one of the clouds then partially darkening the atmosphere, supposing it to have been separated from the rest by the wind. Its course was from north-west to south-east; its flight rapid and in a straight line. As it was passing a short distance above our heads we could mark the strange formation of its body. Its immense wings were clothed with a grayish plumage, its monstrous head was like that of a locust, its eyes were wide open and shone like burning

coals; it seemed to be covered with something resembling the thick and stout bristles of a boar, while on its body, elongated like that of a serpent, we could only see brilliant scales, which clashed together with a metallic sound as the strange animal turned its body in its flight.

In some ways this report resembles those of the aeroplane-sized birds seen over Illinois, USA, in 1948 (see page 1090). But the Chilean workmen were closer to their 'bird' when they saw it and were able afterwards to describe its rather strange appearance. Was it really a bird, or could it have been a flying reptile?

Perhaps this was nothing more than a journalistic hoax, as the 'thunderbird' reportedly killed near Tombstone, Arizona, in 1890 is strongly suspected to be. The details came from an article in the *Tombstone Epitaph* for 26 April 1890. What supposedly happened is briefly told. Two ranchers, riding in the desert, chased a winged monster 'resembling a huge alligator with an extremely elongated tail and an immense pair of wings', which was apparently exhausted. They got near enough to kill it with gunfire,

and then set about measuring it. It was about 92 feet (28 metres) long, with a wingspan of some 160 feet (49 metres). The wings and body were without hair or feathers, and the jaw was full of sharp teeth. The whole Tombstone saga is complicated by the fact that a thunderbird was supposed to have been killed in the same area in 1886. There are researchers who claim to have seen a photograph of it, but so far no one has been able to locate this elusive picture. No one seems to know what happened to the corpse of the thunderbird, if it ever existed. Several good stories published in American newspapers during the second half of the 19th century have since been found to be tall tales, and this may be another.

If the Copiapó and Tombstone 'birds' really existed, they sound more like pre-historic monsters than the birds we are familiar with today. Some years earlier, in the 1850s, a French newspaper reported that a living pterodactyl had been discovered by men blasting rock at Culmont in Haute-Marne, France (see page 147). The creature emerged from a cavity in the rock, and it looked like a bat the size of a large goose. It was black in colour, and its wingspan was about 10 feet (3 metres). Unfortunately, present-day researchers have been unable to find any supporting evidence for this story.

Nineteenth-century pterodactyl reports are admittedly unreliable, but the 20th century has produced some puzzling American accounts that are less easily dismissed. The earliest 20th-century reports concern an enigmatic monster, the so-called 'Jersey devil'.

In January 1909 this weird 'thing' terrorised the state of New Jersey. Its lair was

Right: pterodactyls appeared about 150 million years ago, and so were contemporary with the dinosaurs. They lived in flocks in coastal areas. Their jaws were equipped with powerful teeth, though they lived only on fish and insects. For 85 million years they flourished, and then supposedly died out – yet they fit many modern descriptions of strange flying creatures



Below: an enormous 'bird' seen by workmen at Copiapó, Chile, in 1868. The animal was a curious hybrid, since its wings were covered with feathers, while its body was covered with scales, which the watchers on the ground could hear clashing with a metallic sound



supposed to be somewhere in the Pine Barrens, an isolated area in the south-east of the state. All manner of strange phenomena were attributed to the Jersey devil over the years, but the events we are describing concern sightings of a strange winged monster and the footprints it left behind.

Antics of the Jersey devil

The events began in January 1909, when the Jersey devil was reported in at least 30 towns. One of the earliest sightings was on Sunday 17 January at Bristol, Pennsylvania, close to the New Jersey border. At 2 a.m., John McOwen heard strange noises and got out of bed. He said: 'I looked from the window and was astonished to see a large creature standing on the banks of the canal. It looked something like an eagle . . . and it hopped along the tow-path.' Patrolman James Sackville also saw it in Bristol that night. He reported that it was winged and hopped like a bird, but had strange features and a horrible scream. Sackville ran towards it, and fired his revolver at it as it flew off. A third Bristol sighting early that same morning was made by the postmaster, E.W. Minster, who saw the Jersey devil flying over the Delaware River. The large crane-like bird seemed to be glowing, and it got close enough for Minster to see many details:

Its head resembled that of a ram, with curled horns, and its long thick neck was thrust forward in flight. It had long thin wings and short legs, the front legs shorter than the hind. Again, it uttered its mournful and awful call – a combination of a squawk and a whistle.

Bristol residents next morning found the

Weird winged creatures

Jersey devil's footprints in the snow: they resembled hoofprints.

During the following week, the Jersey devil seemed to be everywhere, and its presence caused panic in the state. Farmers set steel traps and hunters followed the hoofprints. The scene must have looked like the present-day 'flaps' that occur when sightings of a bigfoot are publicised in any area, leading to an influx of photographers and hunters, with resulting chaos. But the Jersey devil seemed indifferent to the furore. On Tuesday 19 January, in the early hours, Mr and Mrs Nelson Evans of Gloucester City, New Jersey, were treated to a close-up view of the monster dancing on their shed roof for 10 minutes. Said Mr Evans later:

It was about three feet and a half [1 metre] high, with a head like a collie dog and a face like a horse. It had a long neck, wings about two feet [60 centimetres] long, and its back legs were like those of a crane, and it had horse's hooves. It walked on its back legs and held up two short front legs with paws on them. It didn't use the front legs at all while we were watching. My wife and I were scared, I tell you, but I managed to open the window and say 'Shoo!' and it turned around, barked at me, and flew away.

Other witnesses mentioned that it had skin like an alligator's and some thought it was nearer 6 feet (1.8 metres) high.

The last sightings seem to have been on Friday 22 January, after which the Jersey devil disappeared as suddenly as it had arrived. Many facetious explanations were proposed: that it was a 'jabberwock', the 'missing link', or an 'asertoraksidimun-diakins'. Mass hysteria was also put forward as an explanation.

Common-sense explanations

Experts who took the witnesses more seriously speculated that they had seen birds: an 'invasion' of scrow-foot ducks was suggested. So, too, was a sand hill crane: with a wingspan of 80 inches (2 metres), a length of 48 inches (1.2 metres), and a 'chilling whoop for a voice', this bird was once common in New Jersey, but is now supposedly confined to remote areas of the deep South. It was also suggested that the witnesses had seen a 'prehistoric remnant'. The hoofprints were ascribed to hoaxing or to the melting and refreezing of human footprints (a possible explanation of some prints, though not those seen in inaccessible places). Which explanation you choose for the incredible events that took place between 17 and 22 January 1909 is likely to depend on your faith in the reliability of eyewitness testimony.

As we come nearer to the present day, witnesses of giant birds begin to 'identify' them as pterodactyls, a trend that may reflect increased public knowledge about prehistoric creatures. In May 1961 a businessman



In 1890 two ranchers in Arizona, USA, allegedly killed a winged monster with their Winchester rifles. The creature was colossal – over 92 feet (28 metres) long. It attacked the two men with its formidable teeth before it died. A local newspaper, the *Tombstone Epitaph*, gave a long and detailed account, but no follow-up stories appeared and no confirming evidence survives

flying a small plane over the Hudson River Valley was buzzed by a huge bird, which scarcely seemed to move its wings. He reported that it was 'a damned big bird, bigger than an eagle . . . it looked more like a pterodactyl out of the prehistoric ages.'

In the early 1960s, a couple driving at night through Trinity Forest in California saw what they thought at first was a plane in trouble, but then decided it must be a bird. It was flying at tree-top height, and seemed to have a wingspan of about 14 feet (4 metres). The couple could not discern any detail, since the 'bird' was only a silhouette to them as it flew across the road ahead, and then up a gulch towards a mine. They decided that it had looked something like a pterodactyl. Later they learned that friends of theirs had made a similar sighting in the same area and that they too had identified the 'bird' as a pterodactyl.

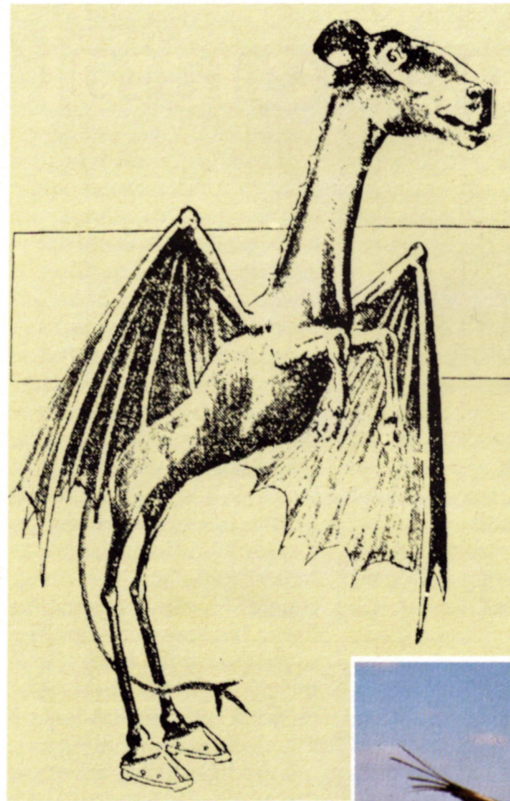
Early in 1976 strange reports began to emerge from Texas of sightings of creatures resembling weird birds or prehistoric flying reptiles. As usual, there were numerous 'logical' explanations for what the witnesses claimed to have seen, but the explanations rarely fitted the facts. The first sighting was made on 1 January at Harlingen by Jackie Davis (14 years old) and Tracey Lawson (11 years old). They saw a 'bird' 5 feet (1.5 metres) tall, with 'shoulders' 3 feet (90 centimetres) wide. It was black in colour with big, dark-red eyes, a bald head and a face like a gorilla's, with a sharp beak 6 inches (15 centimetres) long. Next day their parents investigated and found five tracks, which had three toes and were 8 inches (20 centimetres)

across and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (4 centimetres) deep. A man weighing 170 pounds (76.5 kilograms) was unable to make an equally deep impression in the hard ground.

A week later, on 7 January, Alvérico Guajardo saw what might have been the same bird. He had gone outside to investigate after something had hit his trailer home at Brownsville. He switched on the headlights of his station wagon and they illuminated 'something from another planet'. The creature, 4 feet (1.2 metres) long, stared at the terrified man with blazing red eyes. Guajardo saw black feathers, a beak 2 to 4 feet (60 to 80 centimetres) long, and bat-like wings. It made a horrible noise as it backed away from the lights. Guajardo finally escaped into a neighbour's house. The newspaper reporter who interviewed Guajardo the next day said he was still terrified.

Among other sightings in the state, Armando Grimaldo's experience was the most frightening. He was actually attacked by the 'bird' during the evening of 14 January as he sat in his mother-in-law's backyard at Raymondville. As he looked round to investigate a noise like the flapping of bat-like wings and a 'funny kind of whistling', he was grabbed from above by 'something with big claws'. He fled and, looking back, saw a 'bird' as big as a man, with a wingspan of between 10 and 12 feet (3 and 3.5 metres). It had a face like a bat or a monkey, big red eyes, *no* beak, and dark leathery skin, without feathers.

A big black bird with a bat-like face seen near Brownsville by Libby and Deany Ford was identified by them as a pteranodon (a



Left: the Jersey devil as portrayed by a newspaper artist in 1909. There is a whimsical air to the drawing and its headline, 'the New Jersey "what-is-it"', but the sketch closely follows the verbal account of Mr and Mrs Evans, two of the many people who saw the monster. They described it as 'dancing' on their shed

Below: the sand hill crane, of imposing size and possessing a loud, penetrating cry, was invoked to explain some of the sightings of the Jersey devil that occurred in large numbers in 1909



Below: the pteranodon, related to the pterodactyl, was the largest flying creature known to science. Witnesses of mystery 'birds' often identify what they saw as a pteranodon



type of pterodactyl). On 24 February three elementary-schoolteachers driving near San Antonio also saw what they believed to be a pteranodon. As it swooped low over their cars, its shadow covered the road. They estimated its wingspan as between 15 and 20 feet (4.5 and 6 metres). Mrs Patricia Bryant said it was as big as a Piper Cub plane and that she 'could see the skeleton of this bird through the skin or feathers or whatever, and it stood out black against the background of grey feathers'. David Rendon commented that the 'bird' glided rather than flew and that it had huge bony wings like a bat's.

The most prosaic explanation for all these reports is that the witnesses were simply overawed by sightings of rare native birds. But does the pteranodon identification deserve to be taken seriously? These flying reptiles are supposed to have been extinct for 64 million years. Pterosaurs once lived in Texas and their fossils have been found there. Is it possible that any could have survived? Or – most fantastic suggestion of all – was the structure of time disrupted? Could animals living in past eras suddenly have materialised into the present day?

Hellish, winged, humanoid creatures may exist in reality as in nightmares. See page 1166

Dufferin: the fatal flaw

A brilliant diplomat saved from death by the intervention of supernatural forces – this spectacular story, in various guises, travelled the world in the late Victorian period. But how do the facts stand up to scrutiny? MELVIN HARRIS investigates

FATE WAS KIND to the first Marquis of Dufferin and Ava: in 1893 he was saved – so his chroniclers tell us – by supernatural intervention from a violent death.

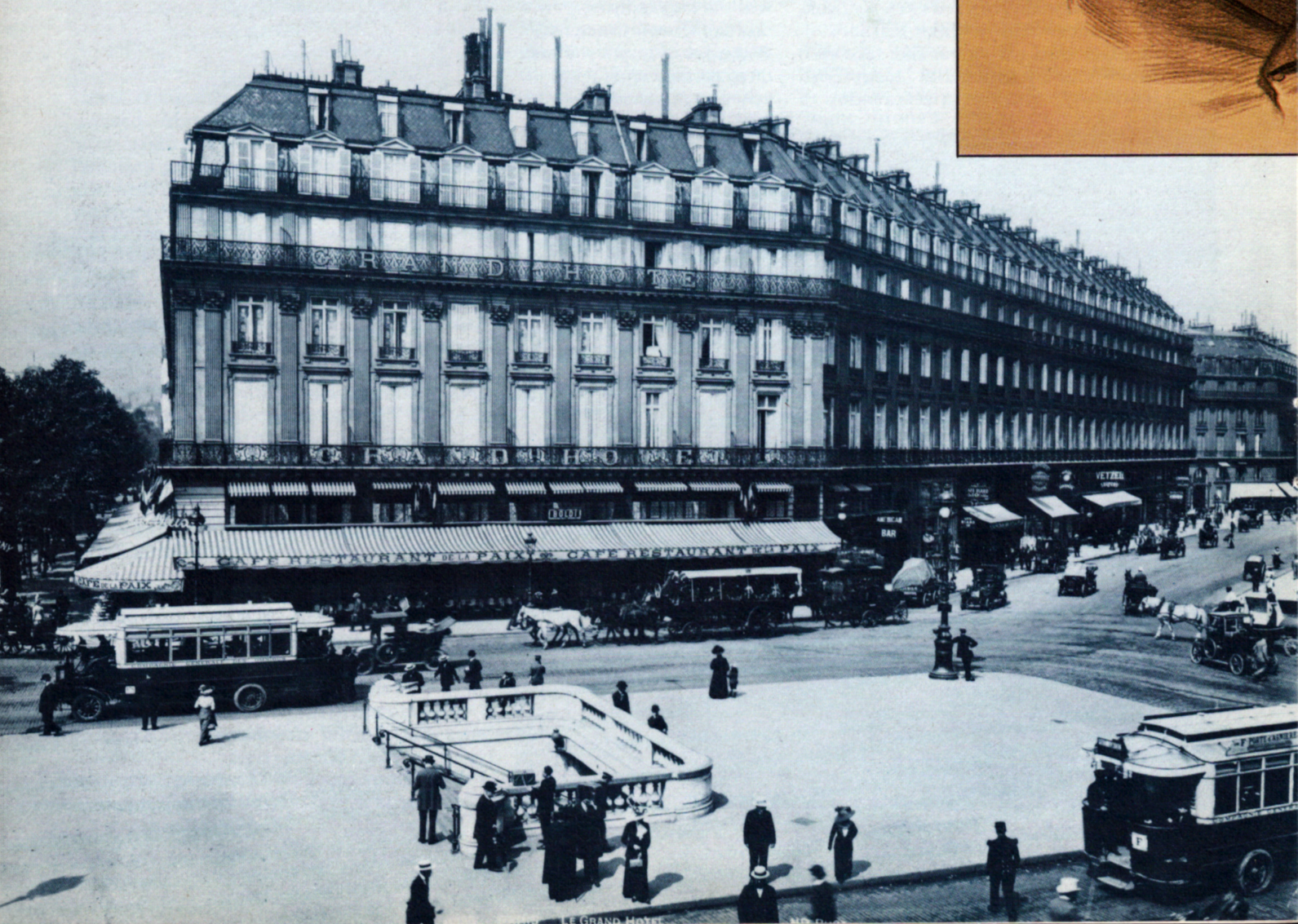
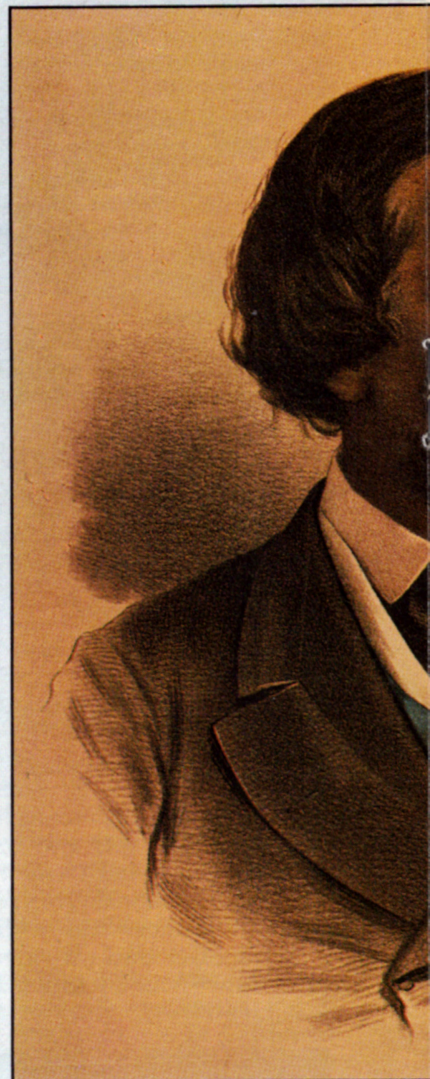
The story begins some 10 years earlier, when Lord Dufferin was enjoying a welcome break from the incessant bustle of diplomatic life. His distinguished career had already included six years as Governor General of Canada, and in 1883 he was completing a report on British government reorganisation in Egypt. A great house near Tullamore in County Offaly, Ireland, seemed to provide an ideal refuge for anyone seeking tranquillity. But one night, this peaceful idyll was shattered by a terrifying apparition.

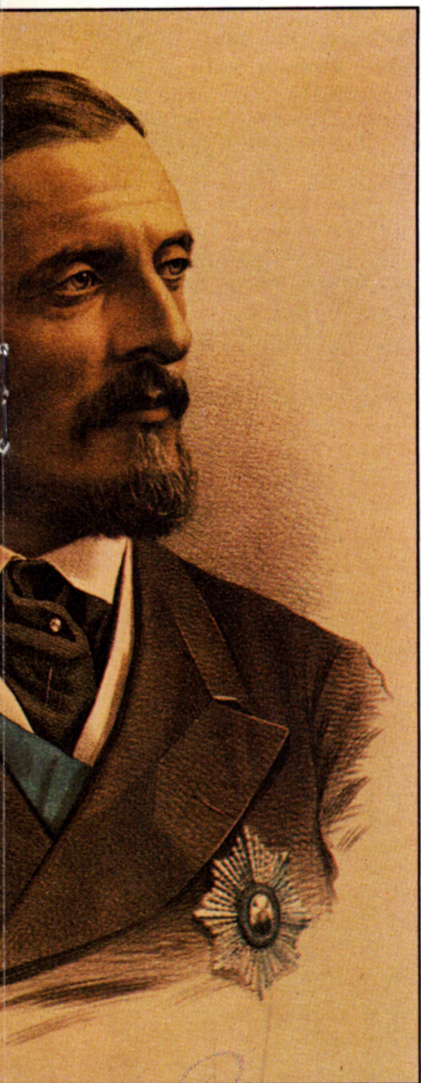
Lord Dufferin was in bed when he suddenly found himself wide awake, sick with terror. He had been awoken by strange sounds from the grounds outside – terrifying sounds. However, Lord Dufferin was no coward; he climbed out of bed to investigate. Trembling in every limb and heart racing, he went to the French windows and peered out.

He could see the trim lawns, bathed in moonlight. Almost every section was in plain view, except for one spot, where tall trees cast long black shadows. And from these shadows came the sounds that had woken him – heartrending sobs, more animal than human.

Lord Dufferin began to fumble with the window latches – and, as he did so, a man staggered out of the shadows into the moonlight. He was bent double under the weight of a load on his back. At first sight it looked like a long linen-chest – but, as the man came closer, Dufferin suddenly became aware that the chest was, in fact, a coffin.

Lord Dufferin threw open the windows, ran across the lawn and shouted at the man to halt. Until then the man's face had been held down and hidden, but on hearing the shout





Above: Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, first Marquis of Dufferin and Ava (1862–1902). Was he, as his chroniclers insist, saved from death in 1893 by the action of some supernatural power?

Left: the Grand Hotel in Paris. Legend has it that, at a diplomatic reception held here in 1893, a lift cable snapped, killing all the passengers. Lord Dufferin made a narrow escape by refusing to travel in the lift – and the story goes that he owed his life to a vision he had had 10 years earlier

Right: the French astronomer Camille Flammarion who, told the story of Lord Dufferin's miraculous escape, published it in his *Death and its mystery* – without, however, checking the facts

he lifted his head and turned it towards Lord Dufferin. And the moonlight fell on a face that was unforgettably loathsome – so contorted with hate that Lord Dufferin stopped dead in his tracks. Then, he drew on his reserves of courage, advanced on the man and walked – right through him!

At the same time the man disappeared – coffin and all. And with his disappearance the gloom lifted and the house and grounds became as calm and restful as ever.

Lord Dufferin returned to his bedroom shaken and puzzled. Then, after writing a complete account of the event in his diary, he managed to snatch some sleep.

At breakfast next morning he read out his account and appealed to his host and fellow guests for an explanation. But no one could help. The description of the man matched no one in the area, past or present. There wasn't even a local ghost to blame – and so the event remained an inexplicable mystery.

Over the years, the memory of that night stayed with Lord Dufferin – but it no longer troubled him. He grew to believe that it really might have been nothing more than an extraordinarily vivid nightmare. And that is how things stood for the next 10 years. Then, in 1893, the vision took on a new significance.

At the time, Lord Dufferin was the British Ambassador to France, and was obliged to attend a diplomatic reception at the Grand Hotel in Paris. When he entered the hotel foyer he found it jam-packed with impatient guests, for the lift was taking ages to make its trips to the reception area on the top floor. Together with his secretary, he joined the queue for the lift. Eventually he reached the head of the queue; the lift arrived, its door squealed open and the attendant waved the guests in.

A hideous double

Lord Dufferin turned pale, stood fast and refused to enter. He mumbled an excuse to the officials with him, then stepped backwards, pulling his secretary after him. Nothing would persuade him to use that lift, for the lift attendant was, in every feature, the double of that hideous man he had seen 10 years earlier in Ireland.

The other officials ignored the eccentric Englishman. They crowded into the lift and it began its laborious climb. Lord Dufferin, meanwhile, went hunting for the manager's office. He had to know who the lift attendant was and where he came from. But, before the Marquis reached the office there came a disaster. The lift's cable snapped and it plunged down the shaft to destruction. The passengers were killed outright – as was the ghastly lift attendant.

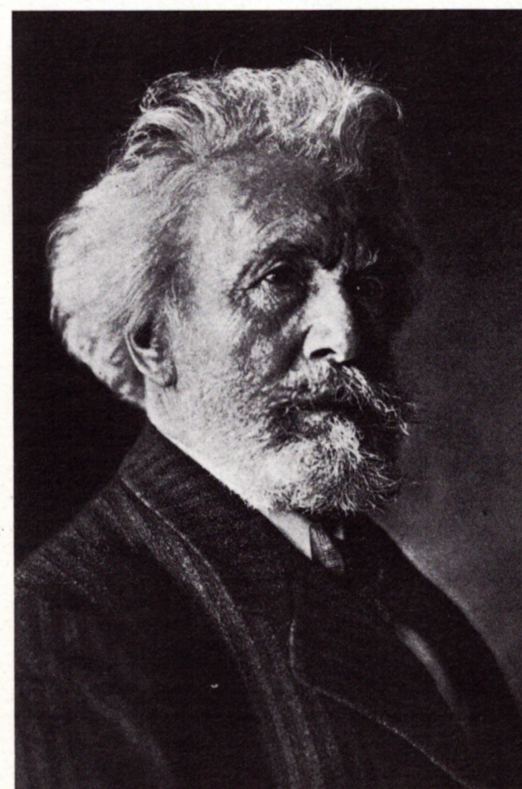
No one ever came forward to claim or identify the attendant's body. The hotel manager could answer no questions either, for the attendant was a casual worker taken on for the day. A man without documents or records. Lord Dufferin was baffled. But not

even his money and influence could turn up a single fact about the man. The one certainty was that his strange vision at Tullamore had saved Dufferin's life.

That, in its essentials, is the remarkable story of Lord Dufferin's escape. Published accounts often vary in detail, but no one ever questions the basic truth of the tale. On the contrary, it is always asserted that the facts have been fully researched and investigated. One writer, for example, states that 'The evidence is incontrovertible... the details of this story have been carefully investigated by the well-known French psychologist de Maratray, who brought them to the attention of the British Society for Psychical Research.' Another writer adds, 'the accident was reported in the Press... but neither the management of the hotel, nor the accident investigators could find any record of the man's name or background.' So, here we seem to have a case that cannot be challenged.

But in fact, the facts are not as watertight as they seem. To begin with, the case was never investigated by the Society for Psychical Research. The society was certainly in existence at the time of the alleged event, but its files prove that it had no record of the Dufferin case. And no newspaper carried reports of the accident – for very good reasons. In fact, the first written account of the Dufferin case did not emerge until 1920 – that is, 18 years after the death of Lord Dufferin and 26 years after the alleged lift crash.

This primary account was written by the French psychologist Monsieur R. de Maratray on 18 July 1920. He gave it to the



Lord Dufferin

French astronomer Flammarion, who included it in his book *Death and its mystery*. De Maratray added force to his account by claiming that his wife was related to Lord Dufferin and his family had been kept informed of the events at the time. Flammarion made no attempt to check the story for himself. He even neglected to ask why de Maratray had kept quiet for so long. Instead, he simply took de Maratray's word for everything.

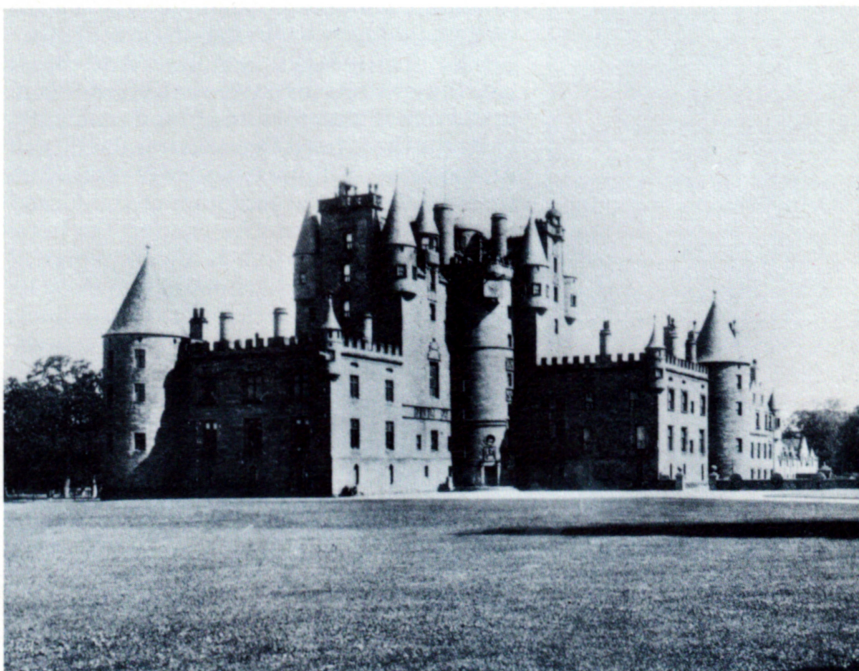
In fact, the fatal accident in the lift of the Grand Hotel took place in 1878 – some five years before the vision in Ireland, and 15 years before the date of Lord Dufferin's 'miraculous escape'. At the time of that genuine accident there was not a diplomatic reception at the hotel. In any case, Lord Dufferin was not even in Paris – but was serving in Canada as Governor-General. On top of that, in the real accident only one person, a young lady, died – not a lift full of people, certainly no unknown lift attendant!

Jettisoning logic

All the facts were established shortly after the publication of Flammarion's book. The intrepid investigator who nailed the story as a lie was Paul Heuze, a journalist with the Paris magazine *L'Opinion*. Heuze proved that, when it came to psychical research, Flammarion jettisoned all the logic and care that went into his astronomical work. As a result his books were crammed full of unsubstantiated stories and hearsay. To his discredit, Flammarion made no attempt to revise these books and the Dufferin story was given wide circulation and picked up by author after author.

But how did such a tale become linked with Lord Dufferin? The files of the Society for Psychical Research provide the answer. They show that in November 1949, a Mr Louis Wolfe of New York wrote to the SPR and asked for details of the society's 'Dufferin investigation'. The SPR replied that it had never been asked to check on the case. But, prompted by this enquiry, the society's secretary then wrote to Lord Dufferin's grand-daughter and asked for her help. In her reply Lady Dufferin stated that the tale did not apply to her grandfather. It was a new version of an old story he used to tell about *someone else*! In the original version, though, an unnamed man had taken his holiday in Scotland, at Glamis Castle. And the vision itself had involved a hearse driven by a man with an ugly and hateful face.

Further research showed that the yarn first appeared as an anonymous second-hand account in the spiritualist paper *Light* of 16 April 1892. *Light*'s editor at the time was the Reverend Stainton Moses and his behaviour paralleled that of Flammarion: he took the tale completely on trust. He wrote this about it: 'It has been communicated to me by a personal friend, and is both authentic and trustworthy.' The account by the Reverend



Top: Lady Dufferin, grand-daughter of the first Marquis, pictured in 1958. It was she who finally cleared up the origin of the escape story: it was a version of a tale her grandfather used to tell about someone else – a man who had taken his holiday at Glamis Castle in Scotland (above). In Lord Dufferin's original version, however, the apparition had been of a man driving a hearse

Moses's personal friend ran as follows:

I have just heard from a friend of a remarkable dream. She thought she heard a loud knock on the door, and on looking out she saw that a hearse had stopped at the house. Being greatly surprised, she rushed downstairs and herself opened the hall door. A strange-looking man was on top of the hearse; on seeing her, he said, 'Are you not ready yet?' She said, 'Oh, no; certainly not.' And slammed the door. The sound seemed to have caused her to wake.

She was much puzzled to know what could be the significance of such a very unusual dream. The face of the man haunted her, and for weeks she could not get the remembrance out of her head. All her family and friends were told about the dream, and all the circumstances of it had been discussed.

Some weeks had passed when one day the young lady happened to be in a

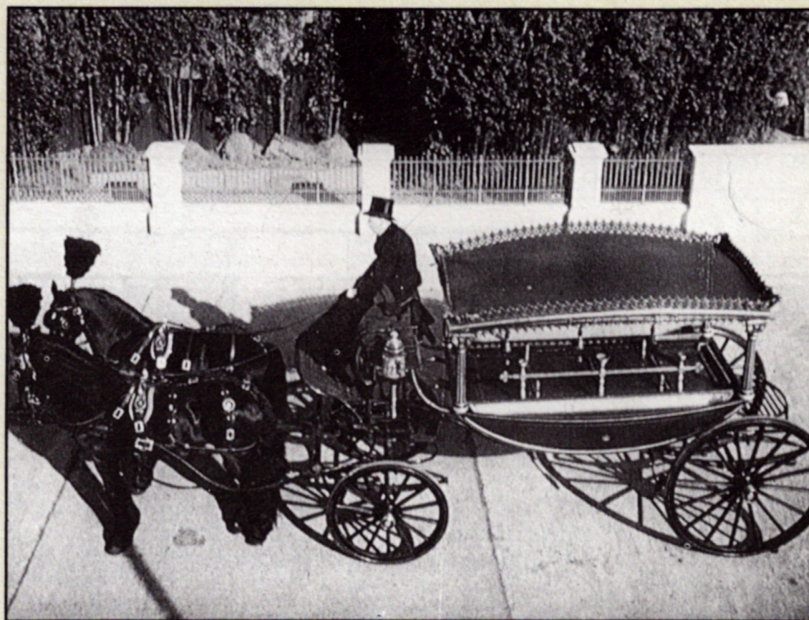
large warehouse in the City, and was just going to step into the lift, when she looked at the man who had charge of it, and immediately drew back, having recognised the face of the man she had seen in her dream. When she drew back her consternation was added to by the exclamation from the man of the very words she had heard in her dream, 'What are you not ready yet, Miss?' Her determination not to ascend in the lift was confirmed, and she declined to go into it. It only reached to the next floor, when the machinery gave way, the lift being smashed to pieces and the man killed.

The lift tale travelled to the United States and Europe, being constantly altered and

The face of death

The weird blend of fact and fantasy that characterises the Dufferin tale reached another level of confusion with the release of the classic Ealing movie *Dead of night* in 1945. It was based on a short story by E.F. Benson, *The room in the tower* – itself based on a hearsay version of the Dufferin legend.

The film concerns a group of people at a party, each of whom tells a story about a mysterious happening – and one of the stories is strangely similar to the Dufferin tale. A racing driver dreams, not of a man carrying a coffin, but of the driver of a hearse. And later, the racing driver refuses to get into a bus when he recognises its conductor as the driver of the hearse. The bus subsequently plunges over an embankment.



added to in its passage. Nine years later, it returned to England in a new guise, now posing as an authentic American event! Ironically enough, it was promptly picked up and reprinted in the pages of *Light*. It seems the new editor and his staff had completely forgotten their earlier account furnished by a 'personal friend' of the Rev. Moses. And on 9 February 1907, it ran the following story under the heading 'Saved by a vision':

The Progressive Thinker gives an instance of a warning dream, as related by Miss Gray, 'A young woman prominent in educational work' in Washington State. While staying in Chicago, where she had planned to visit 'a new department store which had just been opened, whose elevators were death-traps,' she woke up in the middle of the night and saw an unknown face at the window, twenty feet [6 metres] above the ground. On going to the window she saw a hearse standing in the street below, with her nocturnal visitant occupying the driver's box; he looked her squarely in the face and beckoned to her. The next day she visited the store, and on going to one of the crowded elevators the man in charge beckoned to her and said that there was room for one more. His features were those of the man on the hearse in her dream or vision of the night before. She refused to enter the elevator, which 'started down, stuck, and dropped four storeys, killing two of its passengers and injuring everyone else in the car'.

In the meantime, another variation of the story had been incorporated in Lord Dufferin's bag of after-dinner yarns. One day he related it to a young impressionable nephew and gave it special treatment. Adult wiles were not fully appreciated. The twinkle

in Dufferin's eyes was missed. And when he spun out the tale as his very own real-life adventure, the boy was awe-struck and convinced. The boy grew up to become a distinguished diplomat and writer. Out of conviction he retold this 'true story' frequently to his friends – once, unfortunately, to the de Maratrays, who proved as gullible as he himself had been. The innocent culprit, the unwitting father of this tenacious myth was none other than Harold Nicolson.

Right: Harold Nicolson, diplomat and writer – and nephew of Lord Dufferin. Lord Dufferin told the schoolboy Nicolson of his 'escape' – and Nicolson believed it. In adult life he used often to retell the story, so beginning the extraordinarily tenacious myth that, in various guises, was soon known all over the world



Further reading

Camille Flammarion, *Death and its mystery*, Unwin 1923

Paul Heuze, *Do the dead live?*, Murray 1923

Harold Nicolson, *Helen's tower*, Constable 1937

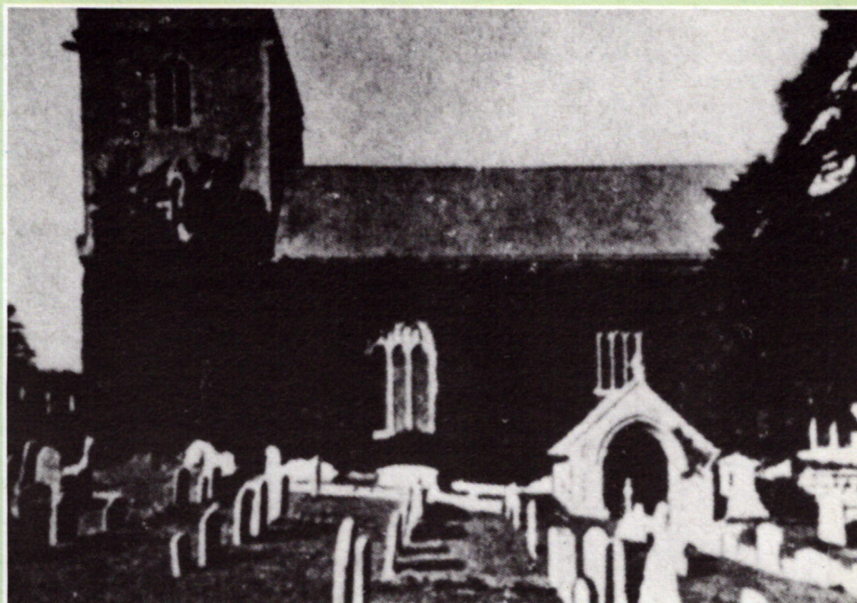
Peter Underwood, *Gazetteer of Scottish and Irish ghosts*, Souvenir 1973

Not only sceptical scientists but also fellow psychical researchers took issue with Targ and Puthoff over their remote viewing experiments at SRI. But why? DAVID HARVEY explains the background to the controversy over this elusive phenomenon

THE RESEARCH BY Russell Targ and Harold Puthoff into remote viewing certainly made an impact. For many people on the fringe of parapsychology, including students and interested laymen, their work had the full weight of authority behind it, for both men were physicists of some standing. If they were prepared to put their reputations at risk by stating so positively that remote viewing *exists*, then who could doubt the validity of their work? However, their fellow scientists, many of them prejudiced against parapsychology in the first place, and some who were merely cautious, were not so ready to hail the results as a breakthrough.

Two of the sceptics were David Marks and Richard Kamman, both psychologists at New Zealand's Otago University. Their students, reading of Puthoff and Targ's conclusions, had begun to bombard them with questions about remote viewing and parapsychology in general. The Stanford Research Institute (SRI) had suddenly become the centre of attention.

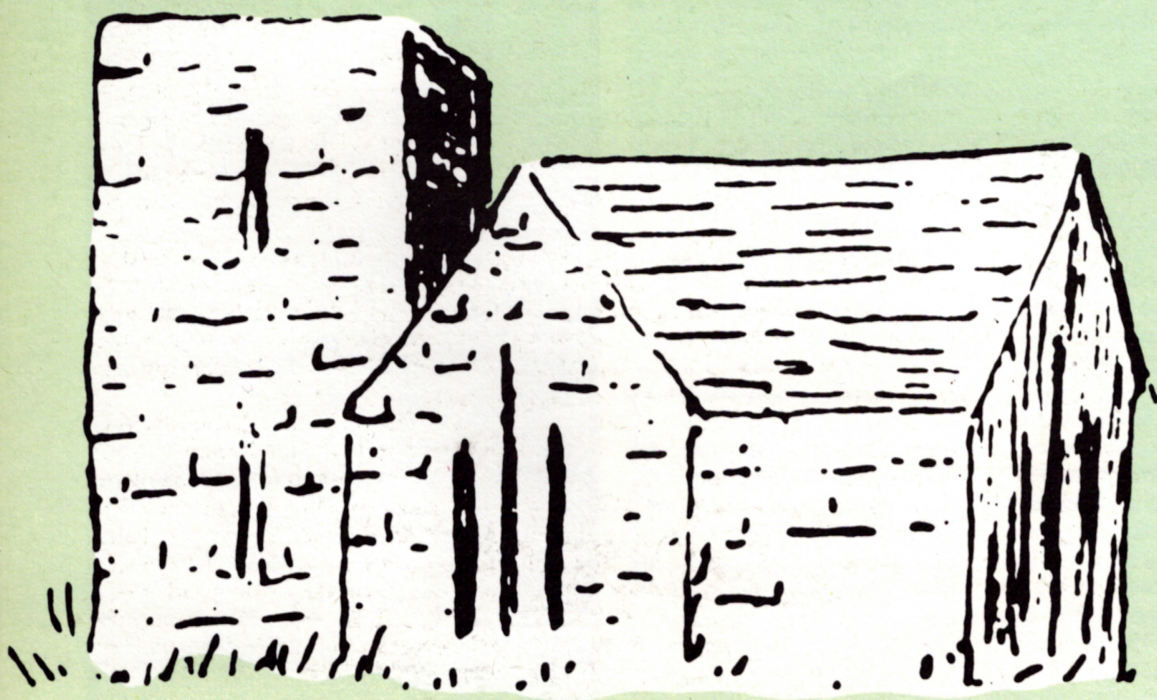
Neither Marks nor Kamman had, until that point in the late 1970s, any special



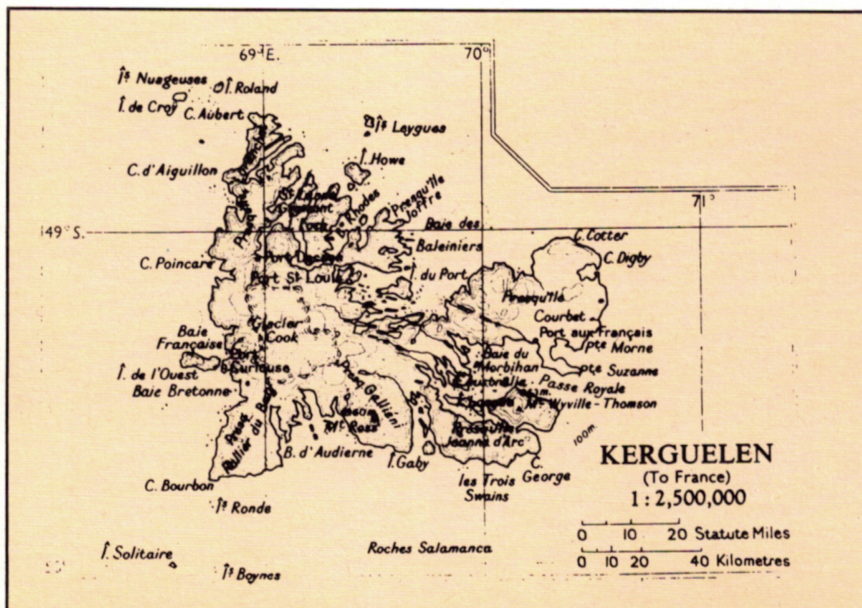
interest in ESP and they admitted their relative ignorance about parapsychology. But the pressure from their students was so intense that they realised they would have to learn. They were interested in the SRI experiments particularly because Targ and Puthoff had claimed that almost anyone, psychically gifted or not, could be successful in remote viewing tests. It was also claimed that the results of the experiments were easy to reproduce.

So, between 1976 and 1978, Marks and Kamman ran 35 trials similar to the SRI

Close-up on remote viewing

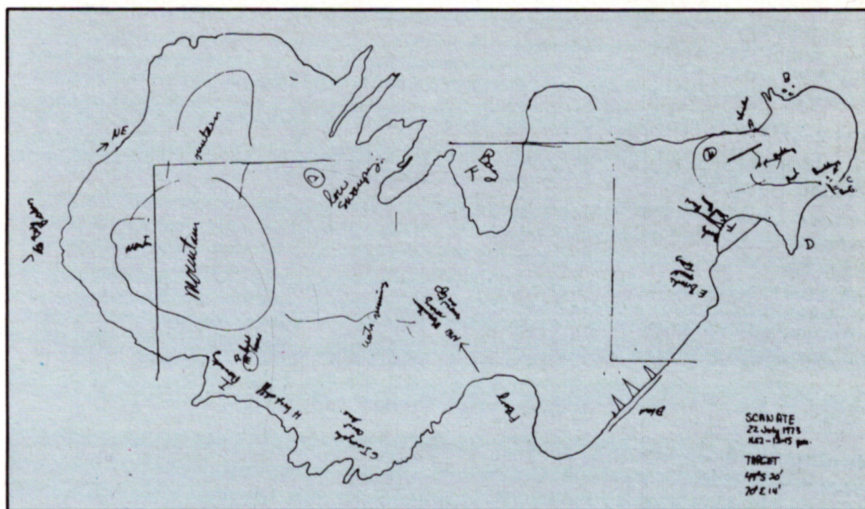


In an article written in 1927 Sir Oliver Lodge cited as evidence for 'telepathy at a distance' the case of the Misses Miles and Ramsden. They undertook a series of experiments in telepathy, which were similar to those carried out in the 1970s at SRI. Miss Miles photographed Henbury Church in Cheshire (above), while Miss Ramsden, in Scotland, drew her mental impressions of the image being transmitted (left). Miss Ramsden, however, felt dissatisfied, saying 'something is wanting, as it seemed bigger and more imposing'. The general shape is correct but the lack of ivy and the slit windows suggest she had somehow 'picked up' an early version of the church



sessions. They used five subjects: a graduate psychologist, a hypnotist, a housewife, an arts student and a medical undergraduate. All of them expressed the belief that they had some psychic ability.

Marks and Kamman followed the SRI routines as faithfully as possible. The target team was given 20 minutes to reach its specified destination, then the subject – back at the laboratory – noted down any feelings or impressions about the unknown target for 15 minutes. The team returned, collected the subject and all then went to the target site to check the subject's transcript against the location. Marks and Kamman were pleased to find encouraging correspondences at the early stages of their project. One of their subjects was so confident that he said, 'If the



Project Scanate (scanning by co-ordinate) was one of the most controversial areas of SRI's remote viewing experiments. A map co-ordinate would be given to the team by telephone and the subject asked to describe the location, which would later be checked. According to Puthoff and Targ, psychic Ingo Swann (left) showed remarkable talent for this. The map co-ordinates for Kerguelen Island in the Indian Ocean (top) were given to Swann who responded with an extremely accurate verbal description of the location. His version of the map (above) is, however, much less convincing, especially considering that Swann is also an artist and is used to thinking in visual terms

judges can't match my descriptions accurately, there will be something wrong with them.'

Unfortunately this confidence was misplaced – the independent judges, brought in to try to match transcripts with actual target locations, failed to do so in every case they were asked to consider.

Up to this stage everyone at Otago had felt very positive about the outcome of the experiments; so what had gone wrong? Marks and Kamman decided to accompany one subject and the target group on one of their joint trips to the target location after the actual remote viewing had taken place. This was to reveal serious flaws in the nature of the experiment – and by implication the experiments of Puthoff and Targ, whose methodology they had followed so carefully. The New Zealanders labelled the problem *subjective validation*; put simply, this means that if you want an experiment to work it will.

because you will tend to select the results you were seeking and reject the rest. Since all the subjects had been strongly motivated to succeed, they had tended to grasp at correspondences – between their impressions and the target – that, according to the judges, simply did not exist. ‘The fact is,’ concluded Marks and Kamman, ‘any target can be matched by any description to some degree.’

For their part, the judges had tried hard to match transcripts against targets and they felt they had come up with the best matches possible. Unfortunately they were not the same details seized upon as 'proof' by the experimental team.

The Otago team then asked the obvious question: if we have had this difficulty, then how did Targ and Puthoff manage to achieve so many direct hits? They began to investigate the SRI findings in closer detail and came up with some provocative discoveries about the way the transcripts had been judged.

For example, they noticed that the SRI transcripts were unedited, including all manner of material in addition to the

subject's actual narrative. Only some scripts were dated, and others – significantly – carried references to previous experiments. One of Pat Price's transcripts – the Redwood City Marina test (see page 1116) – expressly mentions the previous day's target: 'I've been trying to picture it in my mind and where you went yesterday on your nature walk. . . .'

Marks and Kamman saw this as a potential cue to the judge, who was ostensibly trying to evaluate the material on its descriptive content alone. In effect this apparently throwaway remark could be telling the judge that whatever the target was, it was *not* a nature walk, because that was yesterday's target. With such cues the judge could have worked out the series of targets, consciously or subconsciously, and given higher scores as a result.

What the SRI trials had not included, and what they badly needed according to the

Two SRI 'stars' draw their impressions of the target, a typewriter. Ingo Swann's sketch (on the left) seems strikingly accurate, though he did not actually name the object, noting instead that it 'seems to be in two parts, one sitting on top of the other'. Hella Hammid's sketch (on the right) is not impressive although the grid effect could be seen as a keyboard

Otago team, was an attempt at remote *judging*. Was it possible, they wondered, that the judges could come up with good matches armed only with the transcripts – not visiting the target site at all?

The two psychologists acquired five of the Price scripts that had not been published from a consultant to the SRI project. These appeared to be covered in cues such as references to 'yesterday's two targets', more specifically 'the second of the day', and Targ's encouraging comment on one transcript, 'nothing like having three successes behind you'. Other subtle cues included mention of the time of day of the experiment, useful when more than one experiment is staged in one day. In a rigidly controlled scientific experiment there should have been nothing but the subject's impressions on the transcript, and only references to that particular remote viewing session. Any extraneous matter was not only bad methodology, but suspicious.

Right on cue

With a little intelligent guesswork, and a little reading between the – added – lines, Marks correctly matched all five transcripts to the targets, 'solely on the basis of the cues contained in the transcripts, and no visits to target locations . . . prior to the successful matchings.'

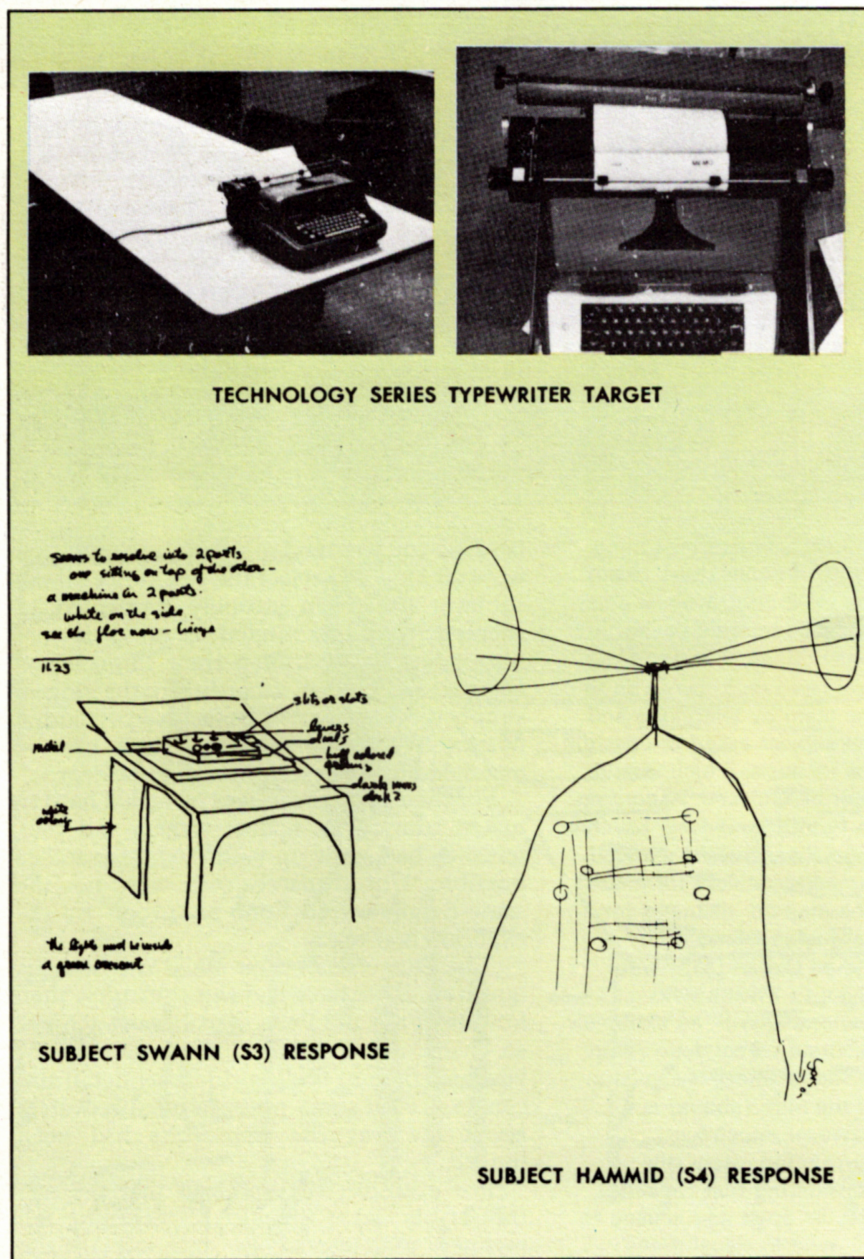
Marks and Kamman argued that the SRI judging could hardly be said to have been blind. Their conclusion, as it was published in *Nature*, says:

Our investigation of the SRI remote viewing experiment with Pat Price forces the conclusion that the successful identification of target sites by judges is impossible unless multiple extraneous cues which were available in the original unedited transcripts are utilized. Investigators of remote viewing should take more care to ensure that such cues are not available. Furthermore, the listing of targets given to judges should be randomized and not presented in the same sequence as that which occurred in the experiments.

And what about the astonishingly successful SRI remote viewing tests using Ingo Swann and Hella Hammid? On balance, Marks and Kamman seriously doubted whether tighter controls had been involved in those. Their final, damning verdict, published in their book *The psychology of the psychic* (1980), is that 'It appears to us that the remote viewing effect is, at present, nothing more than a massive artifact of poor methodology and wishful thinking.'

They did admit that they had been working with incomplete data and, of course, they had not been present during the SRI tests.

However, Robert Morris, who reviewed *The psychology of the psychic* in the *Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research* (ASPR), investigated the New Zealanders'





Absent-minded

Dr Kit Pedler noted the curious phenomenon called the 'displacement effect' during remote viewing experiments at SRI (see page 1117). But bypassing the actual target and homing in on one of the rejected targets instead is intriguingly common in other ESP experiments. And such 'misses' are often more interesting than direct 'hits', although researchers frequently overlook them.



One such case took place during one of Dr Carl Sargent's Ganzfeld tests (see page 134) at Cambridge, England, in June 1981. Peter Brookesmith (Editor of *The Unexplained*) acted as 'sender' and Lynn Picknett (Deputy Editor) as subject. A target picture (left) was chosen from four randomly selected, sealed envelopes, yet the subject received vivid and detailed impressions of one of the other pictures – *which was still in its sealed envelope* (below). No one was 'sending' it, so how did it happen?

criticisms and, in turn, found much to criticise. They had, he asserted, jumped to as many conclusions as, in their opinion, had Puthoff and Targ. Marks and Kamman, said Morris, had overstepped the mark by juggling with incomplete or improperly understood data and had reached the wrong conclusions. Morris conceded that the SRI experiments had required tighter controls and that there had been some serious weaknesses in the methodology employed. But the debunkers seem, like so many debunkers of psychic matters, to have missed the point. Sloppy methodology is one thing, but does it totally invalidate the basic premise that different people, in different places, can somehow 'see' with each other's eyes, telepathically?

Nothing but the scripts

Still with the SRI judging routine – and its inherent weaknesses – in mind, Marks and Kamman countered, they say, by trying another version. In this they removed the cues from the SRI scripts, gave the judges the targets and analysed the matches, assessed on the basis of the transcript alone. But they came up with only chance results.

However, Dr Charles Tart, of the University of California, also took up the challenge. He combines the qualities of being a refreshingly positive parapsychologist with a

reputation for employing strict controls in all his experiments. Having edited out all extraneous information and cues, he resubmitted the scripts to a judge who had previously been successful at matching free-response material, though not at SRI. This judge matched the scripts to the targets at *above* chance odds.

So, imperfect as they were, perhaps the SRI remote viewing trials did prove that there is a strange, telepathic ability that so far we have only glimpsed. Puthoff and Targ's enthusiastic claims that everyone can score a direct hit with remote viewing seems, at present, a little fanciful. Yet there is an increasing body of evidence that suggests very strongly that other psychic abilities – metal bending for example – *can be learned*. There is also mounting evidence in other areas of psychical research that a positive attitude to psi can actively encourage phenomena to occur.

So perhaps the Puthoff/Targ experiments should not be despised. True, no one else has been able to come up with the same high number of direct hits, but perhaps no one else has been enthusiastic enough to encourage such positive findings. And even if they were muddled and ended up, in themselves, proving nothing, they have inspired others to take up the challenge to discover the hidden powers of the human mind.

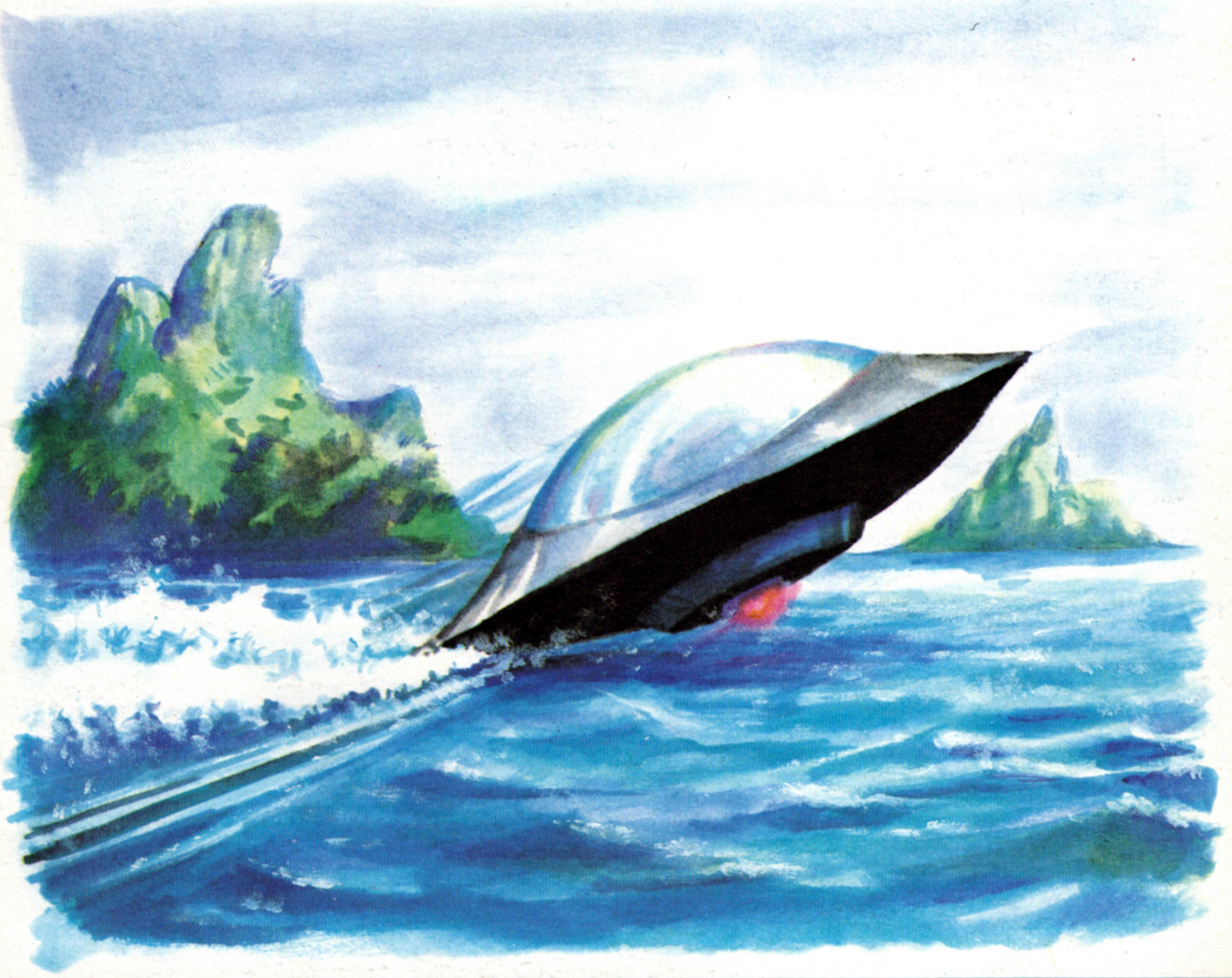
UFOs over water

AN INTERESTING subspecies of UFO reports describes cases in which the objects have emerged from or disappeared into water – most often the sea. One such famous, and well-documented, instance is the extraordinary series of photographs taken in the Canary Islands in 1979 (see page 968). Some writers have even gone as far as to suggest that there are enormous UFO 'bases' hidden under the world's oceans. In the absence of any concrete evidence, however, it seems best to leave this speculation where it belongs, in the realm of science fiction.

All the cases that follow occurred, intriguingly, within 200 miles (320 kilometres) of each other along the Brazilian coast south of Rio de Janeiro (see map), though they were all well-separated in time. All involved several witnesses and what appear to be

CHARLES BOWEN looks at three cases in which UFOs have landed on, emerged from or crashed into water. And all three took place in Brazil

indubitably 'nuts and bolts' craft. Only the Santos case seems amenable to a conventional explanation: but if it represents a stray rocket, aircraft pod, or satellite debris, why were the authorities unable to locate the wreckage at the site of the crash?



'A motor boat striking the water'

Close encounter of the third kind: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 27 June 1970

On Sunday, 27 June 1970 Senhor Aristeu Machado and his five daughters were playing a game on the verandah of their home, 318 Avenida Niemeyer, Rio de Janeiro, from which they could look out over the road below to the South Atlantic Ocean beyond. With them was their friend and neighbour Senhor João Aguiar, an official of the Brazilian Federal Police.

Dona Maria Nazaré, who was preparing lunch in the kitchen, called out to check the time: it was 11.38 a.m. About two minutes after that Senhor Aguiar happened to look out over the sea, and quickly drew the attention of the others to 'a motor boat striking the water'. As this object descended it threw up spray on all sides.

The game and lunch were quickly forgotten for, as the family and their guest watched the 'motor boat' they could see two 'bathers' aboard the craft, who seemed to be signalling with their arms. In a statement to Dr Walter Buhler, who investigated the case, Aguiar said there were definitely two persons on board and that they were wearing 'shining

returned to the house and rejoined the Machados on their verandah. He had been away from the house for about 30 minutes.

Shortly after Aguiar returned, the object – which was now seen to be disc-shaped – took off; it had been on the surface for 40 to 45 minutes. It skimmed the water for some 300 yards (280 metres), throwing off a wave from the bows as it went, then lifted from the sea and made off quickly towards the south-east. It was then that the witnesses realised it was not a motor boat, but rather an object that looked like a *flying saucer*. A hexagonal-shaped appendage retracted into the underside of the main body, and a number of lights on the appendage flashed, in sequence, green, yellow, red.

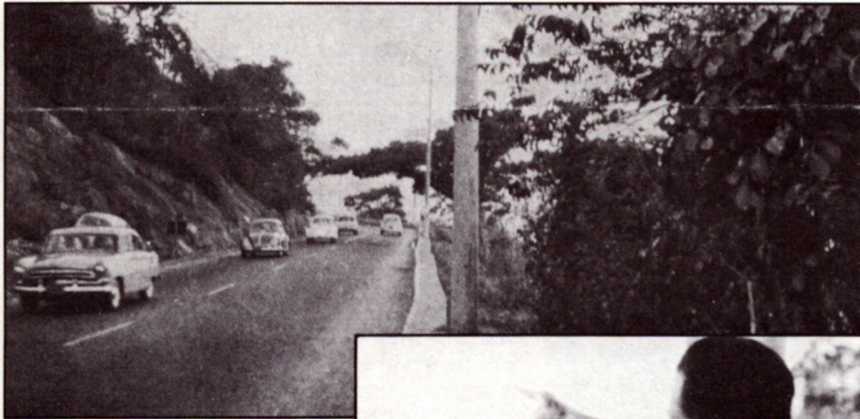
Once airborne, the object appeared to be transparent rather than aluminium-coloured, and Dona Maria Nazaré said she clearly saw two entities sitting inside. There was little traffic noise from the road at that time, but the witnesses could hear no sound from the object.

On the sea where the UFO had originally rested, the witnesses saw a white hoop-shaped object 'about the size of a trunk or chest', according to Dona Maria Nazaré. Suddenly the hoop sank, then it reappeared and a yellow oval-shaped section separated from it. This, it was estimated, was some 16 inches (40 centimetres) across with about 8 inches (20 centimetres) projecting above the surface of the water. It remained stationary for about three minutes, then began to move towards the shore, with its longer axis directed at the witnesses. A green flange at the rear of the object separated from the main body and followed it at a distance of about a yard (1 metre). After 15 minutes the yellow oval was about 130 yards (120 metres) from the shore, when it made a right-angled turn to its left and headed for the beach at Gávea – a movement directly opposed to the maritime current in the area at the time.

The white hoop disappeared several times, but when it came back into view it was still pursuing its direct course for Gávea Beach, as though it were going to link up once again with the yellow object.

Meanwhile the police launch from Fort Copacabana had arrived at the spot where the UFO had remained stationary, having come into view about 20 minutes after João Aguiar made his telephone call. So it seems likely that the crew must have seen the UFO take off. At roughly the position where the hoop had been left the launch stopped and the police hauled on board a red cylindrical object. They then made off at speed towards their base.

No statement was made by the police regarding what they saw or found. And, although an account of the incident appeared in the newspaper *Diário de Notícias* on 28 June 1970, no other witnesses came forward to confirm the sighting.



Above: the Avenida Niemeyer, which runs north-east along the coast into the suburbs of Leblon and Ipanema near Rio de Janeiro. The Machados' house stands above it to the left of the picture



Right: Senhor Aristeu Machado and his wife on the verandah from which they watched the UFO and subsequent events in the sea

clothing, and something on their heads'. The craft was a greyish metallic colour; it seemed to be between 15 and 20 feet (5 and 6 metres) in length and had a transparent cupola. One strange feature was noted: at no time did the object make the 'bobbing' movement associated with a boat on a swell.

Sr Aguiar ran down to the nearby Mar Hotel, and telephoned the Harbour Police; they promised to send help to the occupants of the 'motor boat', who were presumably involved in a mishap offshore. Aguiar then

'Like beads in a necklace'

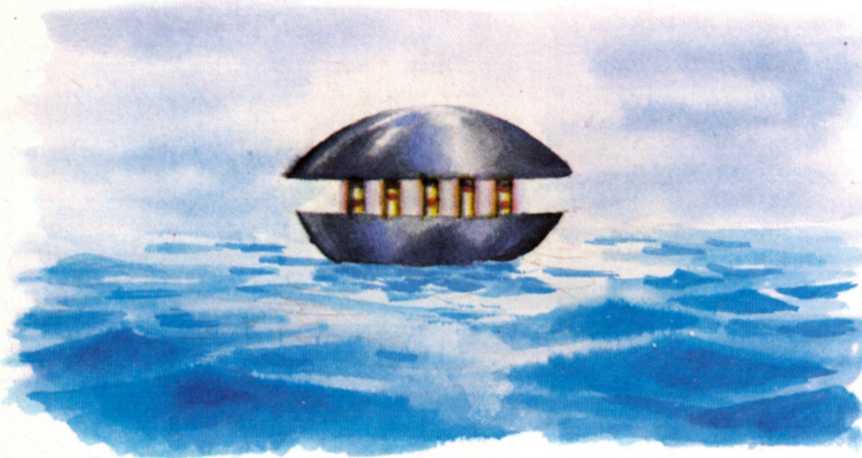
Close encounter of the second kind: near Curitiba, Brazil, 10 January 1958

On 10 January 1958 Captain Chrysólogo Rocha was sitting with his wife in the porch of a house overlooking the sea near Curitiba, and was surprised to see an unfamiliar 'island'. He had his binoculars with him, and when he had focused on the island he was amazed to see that it was growing in size. He cried out to people inside the house, and very

soon eight of them joined the couple on the porch to witness the strange phenomenon.

The object seemed to consist of two parts, one in the sea and the other suspended above it. Then, without warning, both parts sank out of sight; soon afterwards a steamer hove in sight and passed very near the point where the objects were last seen. Fifteen minutes later, when the ship had gone, the 10 observers saw the objects rise once again from the sea. Now they could see that the upper section was attached to the lower one by a number of shafts or tubes, which were quite bright. Up and down the shafts, small objects 'like beads in a necklace' passed in disorderly fashion. This second display lasted for a few minutes, then the sections closed up, and the whole thing started to sink, eventually disappearing beneath the waves.

One of the witnesses, the wife of another army officer, telephoned the Forte dos Andrades barracks at Guarajá, and the air force base was alerted. An aeroplane was scrambled to investigate, but it arrived on the scene after the objects had disappeared.



'The water was boiling up'

Close encounter of the second kind: Santos, Brazil, 31 October 1963

On 31 October 1963 eight-year-old Rute de Souza was playing near her home in Iguapé, south-west of Santos, when she heard a roaring noise that was growing rapidly louder. Looking round, she saw a silvery object coming down out of the sky, heading towards the nearby Peropava River. After

passing over the house the UFO collided with the top of a palm tree and began to twist, turn and wobble in the air. Then Rute saw it fall into the river close to the far bank.

The child turned to run home, and met her mother who, alarmed by the noise, was running towards the river. Then followed Rute's uncle, Raul de Souza, who had been working about 100 yards (90 metres) from the house. The three of them stood transfixed as they watched the surface of the river: at the spot where the object had sunk the water was 'boiling up'. This was followed by an eruption of muddy water, then one of mud.

Rute was not the only witness. On the far bank a number of fishermen had watched the spectacle. One of them, a Japanese gentleman named Tetsuo Ioshigawa, gave descriptions of the incident to official investigators and reporters. The object, shaped like a 'wash basin', was estimated to have been about 25 feet (7.5 metres) in diameter; it had been no more than 20 feet (6 metres) off the ground when it hit the palm tree. The general assumption was that the object was in difficulties after the collision.

The authorities also assumed that a wrecked 'flying saucer' was embedded in the muddy bottom of the river, but divers could find nothing in the 15 feet (5 metres) of water. Finally engineers searched the area with mine detectors, but they too failed to locate the object.

Speculating about the incident in the *Bulletin* of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (APRO), Jim and Coral Lorenzon wrote that the reported size of the UFO suggested it could have carried a crew, and if so, then repairs may have been effected that would have enabled the craft to escape.



Post script

Your letters to
THE UNEXPLAINED

Dear Sir,

I think you may be interested in my experiences of reincarnation, which have taken place over a number of years. Even as a small boy I had the strong feeling that I had been other people and lived in other times. I found it difficult to explain how I felt, and could not understand why others did not accept reincarnation as I did.

Many years later, when grown up, I began having a series of what I can only describe as 'waking visions', in which I appeared to be on two levels of consciousness at once. That is, I 'saw' the experience happening to someone I knew was 'me', and at the same time was fully conscious of my present 'self' looking on in an impersonal, detached way.

The first incident occurred when I was busy doing something about the house. I paused for a moment, then found I was sitting in a window of a monastic cloister, at a wooden desk, working on an illuminated manuscript of some kind. The prior of the house was standing beside me, scolding me about something. I was young and happy and dare not answer back. He had a sharp foxy face and clearly enjoyed making life a misery for the younger monks. We both wore black habits, and I remember being very cold.

Another time, while lying in bed and looking out of the window, I suddenly found myself in a Roman Army barracks room with whitewashed walls. There were piles of blankets and equipment lying around as the men, including myself, prepared to go into battle somewhere. I knew I was 19 years old, and this was to be my first and last battle. An old soldier standing beside me said, 'You'll be all right son, just stick with us. We'll look after you.' But I knew it was going to result in my death. I do not remember the battle itself, and in about 10 seconds the vision faded. I was conscious of looking out of the window during the whole episode.

On another occasion I felt myself to be an old, retired cavalry officer walking along a seafront. I had a stick and was wearing a white or light-coloured suit and a panama hat; I was leaning on the arm of a young woman in a long dress with leg-of-mutton sleeves. It was about 1880. The curious thing is that this conflicts chronologically with another vision in which I was lying dead on the ground somewhere up in the North-West Frontier. There was a crowd of Pathans around me and they were mourning my death. I was tall and thin, and my clothing was stained; there was a pith helmet lying near me.

During this vision a voice said to my conscious self, 'Alexander Scrimgeour: now you know who you were.' The only person of this name I can trace is the standard-bearer to Robert the Bruce in about 1314; but I have had no visions of this period at all.

My latest experience happened at the end of May 1981. I was lying in bed before going to sleep; the light was still on and my eyes were wide open. Then I saw myself dressed in what seemed to be Arab (Moorish?) costume; I was sitting on a horse and holding a banner of some kind. Nearby were three others dressed in similar fashion. One of them had a sort of golden circle round his head-dress, rather like a simple crown. Again we were waiting to go into battle, but this time I felt no fear, only confidence and

exultation. The vision faded after a few moments. I was wide awake the whole time.

I have related only a few of my many experiences; most of them are of a fleeting nature, and I believe they are glimpses into what may be mental recordings of past lives.

Yours faithfully,
Gilbert Guilmartin

Heriot, Scotland

Dear Sir,

I am writing to tell you about two of the strange experiences I have had.

One day, when I was about 19 years old, an elderly neighbour – a friend of the family – was suddenly taken ill, and within 24 hours she had lapsed into a coma. A few days later at about 4 a.m. I woke suddenly and turned over in bed to see an old woman in white standing beside me. The moment I looked at her she seemed to fold up like a piece of paper and vanished. I was wakened again about 30 minutes later by some cold water splashing onto my back. Then I actually felt my back being massaged by an old lady's hands. More water was sprinkled onto my back and a woman's voice murmured, 'Keep her cool now. Don't let her get too hot.' As I wrote in my diary: I could *feel* the hands, *hear* the voice, and I was thinking desperately 'I must wake up. Got to wake up. Must. Must.' I seemed to be paralysed with fear and it took all my strength to hurl myself onto my back. Then the voice went silent. Terrified, I tried to pull the sheet over my head. But it would not rest on my body; a cool breeze seemed to blow it upward.

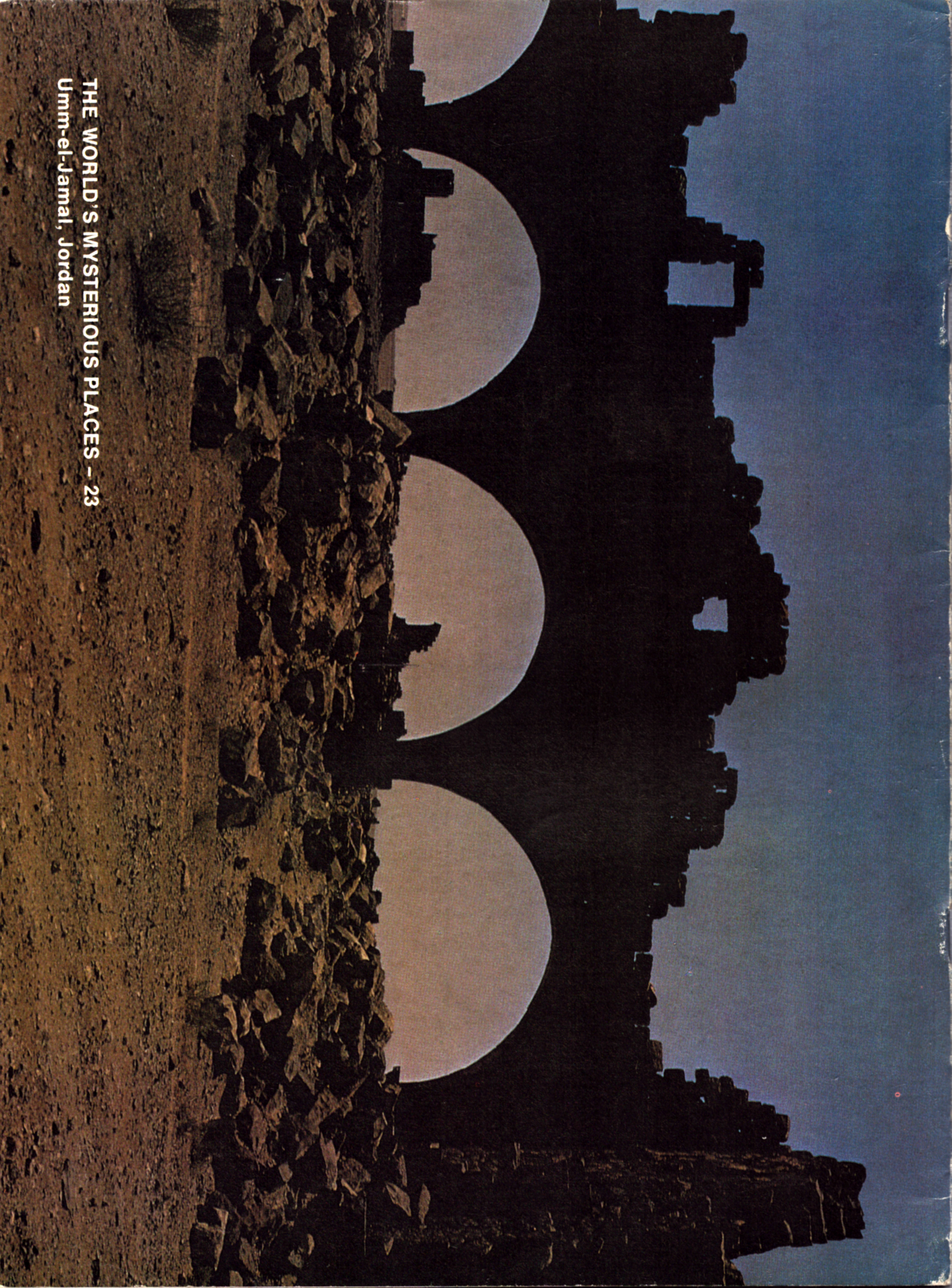
My mother woke me at 8 a.m. and I told her about my experience in detail. The telephone rang just as I had finished. My mother answered it and came back to tell me that our neighbour had just died. It seems that at about 4 a.m. she had developed a high temperature and had been very restless. Over the next two weeks both my mother and I sensed the neighbour's presence and several times even smelt the soap she used.

The second experience I think may be of interest occurred one afternoon when I was on the upper deck of a bus. There was a girl at the back of the bus but the rest of the seats were empty. No sooner had the bus moved off when I realised the girl was weeping uncontrollably. I wondered if I should offer her some comfort and I glanced round at her several times. It became clear to me that she was not only terribly unhappy, but also very ill, for her face was white, and her eyes dark-ringed. I decided to offer her assistance, but when I turned round I saw that she was no longer alone: a young man with golden hair and dressed in white clothes was now sitting next to her.

Shortly afterwards I became aware that the girl was stumbling towards the stairs. She was still sobbing and looked very ill, but the young man was helping her, making sure she did not fall. I looked out of the window to see if she felt any better in the fresh air, but as the bus pulled away I could see neither the girl nor her golden-haired friend – who, incidentally, had not spoken a word. And when I got off the bus at the next stop it was clear they were no longer aboard.

Yours faithfully,
Jilly Clark (Miss)

London SW14



THE WORLD'S MYSTERIOUS PLACES - 23
Umm-el-Jamal, Jordan